Numismatic Association of Southern California

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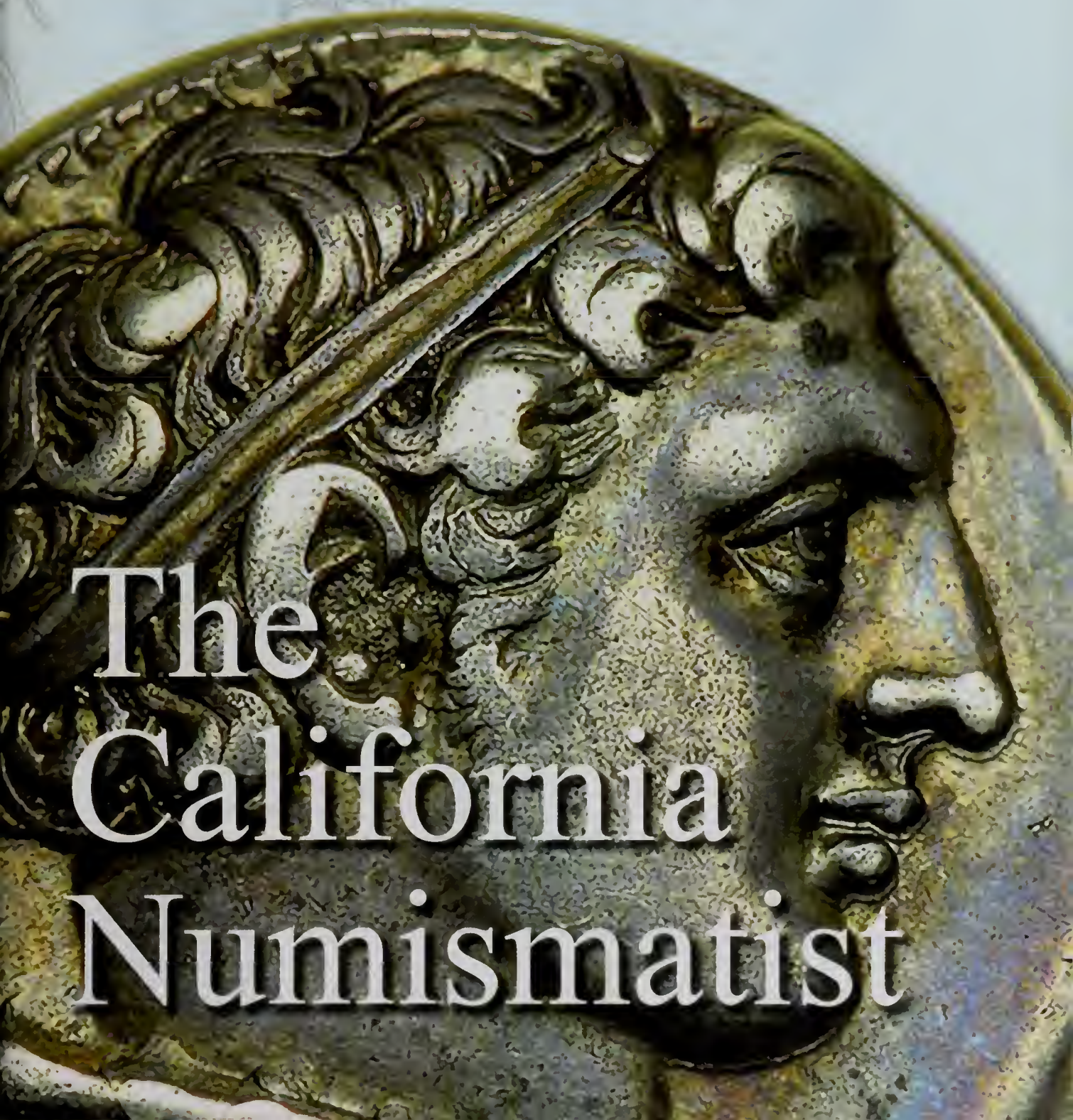

The California Numismatist

The California Numismatist

Official Publication of the
California State Numismatic Association
and the
Numismatic Association of Southern California
Winter 2012, Volume 9, Number 4

About the Cover

The frosty chill of the winter season now ruling over the state is perfectly represented by the silvery luster of this beautiful Roman didrachm. Read up on these gorgeous little gems of the past starting on page 32.

The California Numismatist *Staff*

Editor Greg Burns
P.O. Box 1181
Claremont, CA 91711
GregSBurns@gmail.com

Club Reports South Virginia Bourke
10601 Vista Camino
Lakeside, CA 92040
VLBourke@cox.net

Club Reports North Sally Johnson
PO Box 10416
San Jose, CA 95157-1416
SallyJohnsonTCN@aol.com

Advertising Roy Iwata
c/o CSNA
P.O. Box 2449
Seal Beach, CA 90740-1449
rti2449@aol.com

Visit Us on the Web

The California Numismatist has a Web site at www.CalNumismatist.com. You can find the official scoop there in between issues. Also, both CSNA and NASC maintain their own Web sites at:

www.Calcoin.org
www.NASC.net

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Presidents' Messages

NASC...

Hello friends. My wish to everyone is to have a joyous holiday season and a happy New Year. I wish you receive that something you so desire this year!

NASC just concluded a board meeting with some interesting ideas for the next Golden State Coin Show (GSCS). I appointed a committee of five, headed by Harold Katzman, to iron out the details and present their findings at the next board meeting. The bourse co-chairpersons are Kay Lenker and Dr. Walt Ostromecki. I will be the general chairman so please help me make the GSCS a success that we all will be proud of serving and attending. Mark down these dates, August 24th and 25th, 2013, as the next GSCS dates. Details to follow when they are finalized.

I would like to focus on the main function of the NASC for a moment. I feel that NASC should emphasize more on the Southern California local clubs and their needs with ideas for success. Now, NASC can't help your coin club if it does not participate in the board meetings. A local coin club, as a member of NASC, should make sure that they have a representative or governor that attends the board meetings and annual board meeting and reports back to their membership. We can all achieve success working together.

I also want to thank all the persons who always volunteer for jobs in NASC. A successful association can only achieve its goals when everyone within it works together. If you want to join the fun and comradeship of NASC please let me or someone on the board know, as new persons are always welcome and wanted. Peace and joy to all.

Alex Jaramillo
NASC President

CSNA...

Greetings! Is not there a *Batman* movie in which the Joker remarks with a unique laugh, "I'm back!" Hopefully, our CSNAers would not interpret nor class me as a "Joker", or should I be aware of that possibility?

Being serious as the New Year begins, our association, with its proud heritage and grand history back to February, 1947, faces challenges: our finances and the need for a balanced budget, additional revenues, maintaining our primary services such as TCN, the call for a north and south convention each calendar year, to increase and retain our membership, as well as the various issues of being a statewide non-profit 501c3 organization. These are our challenges, and a newly installed board of directors must tackle these.

You as a concerned and devoted member can assist, even in the little things like prompt payment of dues, attending our association's events, sharing your TCN with fellow non-members, and maybe contributing with your time, talents, treasurers, or thoughts. Anything, even the smallest, can assist, and it could ensure our association operates well into the next decades.

As I return to the presidency, I cannot overlook my respect and appreciation for my immediate predecessor, Gary L. Beedon, and thank him for holding the helm during stormy seas and wild winds of the good ship *USS CSNA*. Thanks, Gary! Of course, the same gratitude is expressed to our deck and engineer crew—referring to the executive officers and directors—who have been "piped-off" and now are on shore duty. Thanks to them also!

Continuing, comments and constructive ideas are always welcomed. Please contact me via PO Box 4003, Vallejo, CA 94590, or at EMPERORI@juno.com.

Finally, here is something to ponder as the New Year begins: "He who would do great things should not attempt them all alone."—Seneca native American proverb. Remember: have fun with your hobby! Always serve others! Enjoy your collecting! And, create hope and do good!

Michael S. Turrini
CSNA President

Editor's Page

We've got a great collection of articles to round out the final issue of 2012. New author (at least to TCN) Jim Phillips shares his recent experiences as a club program chair with others who are in the same boat, and gives some useful tips for keeping one's sanity in that position.

Another new author, Jim Waldorf, gives us his perspective on a familiar (and for many of us, timely) topic: what to do with a collection in light of the realities of our later years?

Jim Wells delivers another of his superbly researched and written monographs, this time on the fractional currency used in US during latter part of the nineteenth century.

Returning author Mark Benevenuto provides two articles from the extreme ends of a broad swath of history, from the Roman republic to modern times.

Bill Febuary's fans will be glad to see another of his periodic pieces, with his approachable down-home style and experienced perspectives, this time on the vagaries of fate.

And of course our regular columnists Tom Fitzgerald and Sol Taylor polish off TCN with their welcome pieces. So I'm certain there's something for everyone in this issue, and a lucky few will relish them all.

I normally get TCN to the printer's in the first week of the month due, but this go-around I'm just entering the third week. *Ouch*! I'll beg forgiveness due to the unusual amount of business travel this past month (I'm a working Joe just like many of you), and recognizing that even when printed on schedule, this time of year forces slow mail delivery, and so hope you're not unduly inconvenienced by my tardiness.

With 2013 just around the bend I'm wishing all of you a happy holiday season, and a safe start to the new year. Stay warm and dry, and we'll talk again in a few months...

Greg Burns
Editor

CSNA Membership Application

Membership Category	Cost
Individual (1 year)	$20
Individual (2 years)	$39
Individual (3 years)	$55
Associate (spouse)	$10
Junior (under 18)	$10
Club/Organization	$30

Includes subscription to *The California Numismatist!*

Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____

State:_____Zip:_____

I herewith make application for membership in the association subject to its constitution and by-laws.

Signature:_____

Sponsored by (optional):_____

Send this application, including a check/money order payable to "CSNA" for your dues, addressed to:

Michael S. Turrini, CSNA Membership
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Corresponding Secretaries' Reports

CSNA—

by Michael S. Turrini

Greetings!

First, by the time you are reading this current TCN, Donald L. Hill, of Vallejo, should be adjusting to his new duties as our corresponding secretary. Don should elsewhere in this TCN, and on our Web site, provide his current contacts. Please be advised, that the post office box remains PO Box 4003, Vallejo, California, 94590-0400.

Second, also by this time, you should have received your 2013 dues notice, for those having dues now "due". Initial notices were mailed the first of November. Needless to say, prompt payment and response are requested, easing and erasing the burden for mailed second notices and reminders.

Third, following are our membership statistics, as of November 1, 2012, and over the past few years our total membership has remained stagnant, losing as many as joined. The previous boards and the incoming board of directors are aware of this predictable statistical anomaly. As your new president and along with Don as the new corresponding secretary, we would be interested in your insights and ideas about not just membership recruitment but membership retention and reinstatement. Any insights? Any ideas?

Lastly, while our association no longer offers a paid life membership, our life members are valued. Recently, a few pending and long delayed engraved permanent life membership cards were mailed, and with those all known life members should have their respective cards. In addition, if you are a life member and are no longer are involved with numismatics or have new interests or would prefer not to receive TCN, please do contact us. As the years or even decades progress, there are changes.

NASC—

by Harold Katzman

We had an additional renewal come in (fairly late in the year), plus several member addresses were updated.

As a side note, when I first took over this position we had over 350 sustaining members. That number is now just 139. It is not so much the case that these long-time members are passing on, it is more of an issue when they change addresses and we can't or don't receive a follow-up new address. So, dear readers, please be sure to keep us apprised when you move, so that we can be sure to update our mailing list and ensure you continue to receive your copy of TCN.

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FAX: 951-684-5707

NASC New Members - None.

NASC Membership on Nov. 10, 2012

Charter	1
Junior	6
Life	13
Club	18
Regular	83
Sustaining	139
Total	260

Special NASC Note!

The NASC board recently voted to change the sustaining membership fee. Effective January 1, 2013, it will be to $500 for those under 50 years of age and $300 for those 50 and older.

CSNA New Members

Charles A. Fares	R6366
Deborah A. White	R6367
Al Wood	R6368
Gerald Smith	R6369
Steven Berenhaus	R6370
Riverside Coins	R6371
Doug Ebert	R6372

CSNA Membership on Nov. 6, 2012

Associate	8
Junior	3
Life	141
Club	29
Life Club	13
Regular	263
Total	457

Dear Members—Please Note!

If you've moved, please help us keep our addresses up to date. Take a moment to drop us a short note to ensure that you keep getting your copy of *The California Numismatist*:

CSNA—Michael S. Turrini
c/o CSNA, P.O. Box 4003
Vallejo, CA 94590-0400

NASC—Harold Katzman
P.O. Box 3382
Tustin, CA 92781-3382

The "What If's" of Numismatics

by Bill Febuary

What if I would have done something differently when I first started collecting coins and currency? As I think back now I wonder how many mistakes I made and what if I would have done things differently.

The first mistake I made was about 1964 when my mother passed away and left each of our children a $1,000 savings bond. The bonds were about to mature and I could cash them and turn them into CD's where they could draw a better interest.

At that time the bank where the bonds were held (1964) still had bags and bags of silver dollars stored in their vaults (unknown to me at the time). I later found out they had remained in the bank vault until about 1972. In 1969 I became interested in the numismatic hobby through my boss at the time and he always said to look toward the future, for what you do now has a direct effect on the future.

I continued to leave the CD's in the bank and finally realized a profit from each CD of $300 in interest, still not being interested in purchasing any of the bank bags of silver dollars that were laying in the bank vault with no apparent buyers.

Several years latter those bank bags of silver dollars were selling for $30,000 each and I could have had two of them from the CD money. If I only would have!

Another story comes to mind when I began collecting and buying large sized currency in the early 1970's. I started out with low grade material because it was so cheap. I finally realized that it might be better to buy a higher grade of currency because the prices were not that much different from buying a very fine note compared to an extra fine or almost uncirculated note. I sold the lesser graded notes and bought better notes including large sized gold certificates, legal tender notes, including several bison notes and even a set of the educational notes.

In 1982 we decided to move from South Dakota to California and I sold many of my notes because I could make a profit of anywhere from $40 to $80 on each note that I had purchased several years before that.

Little did I know that years later those same notes would be selling for ten to twenty times what they were selling for in 1982. Another story of "What If I would have done things differently?"

A third story surrounding the *what if's*, is the time that a friend of mine came to me with eight or nine 1909-SVDB Lincoln cents that he had obtained from a friend whose parents

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had passed away. He was needing the money and the coins were available at such a low price it was hard to believe. They ranged in grade from VF to BU and he was asking a price of about one-half the retail price for the coins. I failed to purchase any of the Lincoln cents from him as I thought they were too expensive. So I passed up buying any of them. Several of my friends bought them and made double their money in selling them in less than a month's time. Another case of "If I Only Would Have Done Things Differently!"

I did, however, make a few wise moves in my coin collecting history, but even then none of them were of a great profit. One example is when I did an appraisal for an elderly couple who had their son's coin collection (he had passed away a few years before they contacted me) and were wanting to sell the coins as they lived in an expensive part of town and were afraid of being robbed.

I met with them several times as the collection was quite large and they wanted all of the coins to be gone, so I packaged and bagged them up and bought the entire collection.

About three months later I was in need of some silver coins as the market had gone up severely and I felt it might be a good time to sell some of the silver coins. I began to sort through the rolls and bags of coins that I had purchased and opened a roll of quarters and to my surprise, I found three 1932-S quarters in extra fine or better condition. I was able to sell them for $70 each. Those same coins today sell at Gray Sheet bid at $165 each, so again..."If I only would have!"

In most cases over the years my profit from the coins and currency I sold was very little, but I finally realized that at least when buying coins, I could buy them at about double face and could store them away without a lot of expense, and then sell them later for more than what I had paid for them. This was extremely true of the rolls of silver half dollars, silver quarters and silver dimes that I purchased for about double face years ago. Those same rolls of coins today are selling for around 20 times face or more, so that was my first really good thing that I did, but of course I sold them for about 10 times face at the time and thought I was making quite a profit. If I would have waited another year or two, my profits would have doubled.

It is funny in looking back at the old-time catalogues that I have acquired over the years and the difference in the prices of today compared with the prices of the 1970's and how much they had increased in price and value.

Another lesson learned in the *Field of Numismatics*. "What If I Only Would Have!"

Through the Numismatic Glass:

A Time of Change! Some Changes in our Lives.

by Dr. Thomas F. Fitzgerald

Some time around the second week of October my 12-year-old computer died. For the past decade I had written everything on my trusty old reliable machine. I had two choices—purchase a new computer or give up writing.

The trouble was my new computer, with a very similar keyboard and mouse, had new and unfamiliar programs with new rules etc. I was forced to change my habits. I remembered the battle when I bought my first computer. I lived on a 2nd floor apartment and came very close of throwing it out the window when I couldn't make it behave. However, at that time I was principal of a local high school with a business department teacher. She was in charge of a computer class. Whenever I had a problem I contacted her and she told me what to do. She became my teacher and helped me solve my computer problems.

A New Partner

As many of you know, my wife Mo is from New York and her family and friends live in either New York or New Jersey. In fact we spent several weeks there about a year ago. So we are very concerned about their situation now. We believe this is the result of permanent climate changes including global warming. Many of our relatives and friends have been greatly affected. You've all seen the pictures and heard the reports. When we complain about our lack of water or the need to conserve our water, the people on the East Coast would gladly change places.

Local Coin Clubs, the NASC, and CSNA

Local coin clubs such as the Covina, Upland, and San Bernardino coin clubs have all experienced changes including a loss in membership. As a result there are difficulties finding members who are willing to serve as officers. At one time some of these clubs had annual shows but no longer have these events. At times they search for programs, particularly speakers for their meetings.

The NASC was founded over 50 years ago to provide services to member clubs such as an annual coin show, speakers, a newsletter called *The Quarterly*, and workshops etc.

It would be impossible for the clubs to provide such things. The NASC continues to do these things, at times in conjunction with the CSNA.

The CSNA, like the NASC, provides a list of speakers and programs for the local clubs throughout the state—particularly in the northern part of the state. Perhaps the most popular activities are the annual educational symposiums in both the northern and southern California regions.

Several years ago, the CSNA and NASC agreed to publish one journal representing both clubs. Greg Burns is the editor and *The California Numismatist* has won a first-place award from the ANA for the past eight years. This outstanding publication covers the activities of the CSNA and the NASC with reports from both presidents, the activities of both clubs, announcements, and award-winning articles.

So here is my first report written on my new computer and, with a great deal of luck, sent to Greg Burns.

It Makes Cents:

Lincoln Cent Collectors New Dimension—The Varieties

by Dr. Sol Taylor

The days when one could complete a Lincoln cent collection by culling through change are long over. I found *three* 1909S VDB cents and one 1914D cent in circulation, but that was some 50-60 years ago. In the 1940s news about some 1943 bronze cents spread and excitement grew over the prospect of finding a Lincoln cent worth thousands of dollars and stimulated a frantic search for this elusive variety. Over the years some 15 (P, D and S) certified bronze 1943 cents have been identified.

Prices have varied up to and beyond $100,000. In 1944, a few (now certified about three dozen) 1944 cents were struck on wartime steel planchets. These varieties sell for hundreds of dollars in worn condition to several thousand in mint condition. Collector Steve Benson did a thorough investigation of these two varieties and has identified their ownership and auction records through 1999 (see my book, *The Standard Guide to the Lincoln Cent*).

In 1955 another variety made news and restarted the Lincoln cent variety treasure hunt. The now-famous 1955 double die cent—a dramatic doubling of the obverse features—propelled this variety into the news and popularity. Though it is not a very rare variety, with over 20,000 known specimens, it still brings hundreds of dollars in circulated condition and several thousand in mint condition. By the early 1960s a few earlier and lesser known Lincoln cent varieties started to appear on dealer price lists. The 1960 small date cent which appeared early that year stirred excitement as dealers were offering up to $3 each in early 1960. The larger date variety came out shortly thereafter and the hunt for the small date cents began (the 1960D small cent, though less common than the 1960D large date cent, was bringing only a small premium of ten cents at the time).

By the early 1970s after many collectors started to search through their collections, stock books, and dealers' inventory began to reveal that in the Lincoln Cent series there are literally *hundreds* of previously unreported varieties, some of which now worth

hundreds of dollars (or for some even thousands of dollars in mint condition). John Wiles book, *The RPM Book*, opened the door to a whole new collecting series—Lincoln cent varieties. Not long after, other series revealed similar unreported varieties and a raft of new books specializing in one series. Jeff Oxman's books on silver dollar varieties (known as "VAMS") created a whole new collector following with the formation of the Silver Dollar Collector Society in the 1980s.

Early in the 1970s I learned of the 1909VDB double die variety and started to search for them. At one coin show I found four in one dealer's stock. At the 1980 Bowers and Ruddy auction at the NASC in Los Angeles, I spotted ten in a BU roll of 1909VDB cents. The roll sold for $1,000 and I paid the buyer $1000 for the ten 1909VDB double die cents. Today, that variety is fairly well known among dealers as well a collectors.

The 1917 doubled die cent was unknown to collectors until later in the 1970s or 1980s. I found one in a collection of Lincoln cents minus the key coins I bought at a Mike Aron auction a few years earlier. It is considerably scarcer than the 1955 double die cent, but valued a lot less except in mint condition. At this time I believe there are only two or three grading MS65 or better.. By the 1990s *hundreds* of Lincoln cent varieties have been identified and published, though for most of them there are few or no auction records.

Among the "discovered" varieties, which include a few listed in the Red Book and other books on United States coins, are the following:

- 1909S over horizontal S (doubled mintmark)
- 1910S trace of VDB—three known but uncertified
- 1922 plain (actually no mint-marked cent minted in Denver)
- 1936 doubled die (two distinct varieties)
- 1937 recded edge (not a mint-made variety)
- 1941 double die (two distinct varieties)
- 1944D over S (2 distinct varieties)
- 1955 double die reverse proof
- 1956 D RPM#8
- 1964 double die reverse
- 1969S double die obverse (rare)
- 1970S doubled die (rare)
- 1972 doubled die obverse (8 varieties)
- 1983 doubled die reverse
- 1984 doubled die obverse
- 1990 No-S proof (less than 30 known—*rare*)
- 1995 double die obverse (not rare)

Many others have been identified and published. Prices vary widely for the lesser known or the less-than-rare pieces.

In the *Cherrypickers Guide* by J.T. Stanton and Bill Fivaz, hundreds of other varieties are illustrated and priced where there have been retail or auction records. The book is updated every few years as more varieties are discovered and prices recorded.

Unlike the collectors of 50-60 years ago, today's collectors still have a shot at finding varieties in circulation or by actively cherrypicking through dealers' stock or old collections. New finds are reported fairly often and who knows what lies beneath (or inside) all that old furniture in grandma's basement?

"So, What's the Program?"

by Jim Phillips

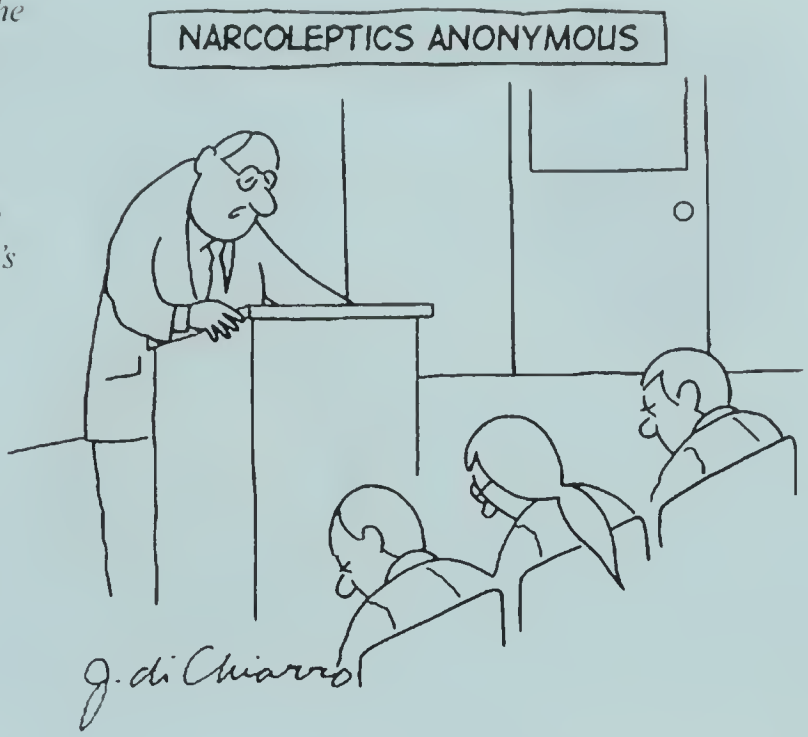
So, you just got elected to a club officer position, (it's usually vice-president), and the first question someone asks you is, "What's the program for next month?" At first that's fairly easy to answer but after a while it can be tough to come up with something new. Although I am certainly no expert after only 3 years of doing it, I thought I might try to pass along some tips to perhaps make the job a little easier.

One of the first sources of programs I would recommend is available directly from the NASC which publishes a list of over 15 volunteer speakers, their contact info, the topics they present, and any special equipment or traveling requirements they may have. The list also has a section with hospitality tips for the host arranging the presentation. The second portion of the list covers the NASC Visual Education Library which is a listing of available slide show and video programs available for loan. The speakers list is available by request via e-mail from Virginia Bourke, (the NASC Speakers Bureau chairman), at vlbourke@cox.net, or online at the association's Web site (www.NASC.net).

The next source of programs I'd recommend is available right from your own club members. I try to know something of the collecting interests of most of the members of my own club and that information can be very useful when searching out new programs. Even if a person is reticent about presenting a program (who isn't!) knowing that they have numismatic items that can be displayed to visually support a program is good information to have. We just had a co-program on the silver eagle coin series. One of our members was lucky enough to be able to purchase a couple of the anniversary sets which I used as displays. All it took was a little research on the series and a bit of assistance from the person with the sets. Your own members probably have collecting specialties just waiting to be displayed. I've also had member's volunteer programs that covered their recent travel adventures or another hobby specialty. Sometimes all you have to do is ask and the help will be there!

Let's talk a bit about other types of programs. A number of excellent programs can come from outside the usual sources, but are sometimes not the easiest to find. Remember that not every program has to be specifically a numismatic topic, and thinking of "outside the box" programs really provides diversity in the material pre-

If there's any consolation for the nervous program chairperson in a small coin club, it's that most presentations are short and, believe it or not, there is always *some special few in the audience who find the speaker's topic interesting, even if it's on narcolepsy (grin).*



sented to the club. I'll suggest some of the program sources that my club has used in the past as possibilities of what may be available to your club.

Check your phone book for any local museums or historical societies listed. These kinds of organizations tend to depend on volunteers and donations and will usually have a staff member or volunteer available to give publicity presentations as a way of attracting support. Historical presentations can provide a link between the museum or historical society and your local coin club, and generates a bond within the local region. We discovered information about the establishment of our town's charter bank and one of our members who displayed a bank note issued under that bank's charter. In addition, our town's historical society had photos of the original bank building and surrounding location. Area museums are also an excellent source for thematic presentations. Depending on the museum's specialty they can be a great fit for club presentations. A little research can sometimes really pay off for the club members.

Businesses are a great source for programs. Coin shop owners are a natural for a business program with how the business is run, and some clubs may have a local coin dealer or two who are willing to speak. Some other business suggestions include pawnbrokers (we had an excellent program from our local pawnbroker about the business), antiques dealers, and banks. Check and see if charity organizations offer representatives that speak about their organizations' purpose. We had a program about raising and training service dogs and I still get asked about the progress of the dog that was used in the presentation.

Get to know your small "Mom and Pop" bookstores. They are a great con-

Civic and public-service groups often have programs and presenters that are available to speak to coin clubs on topics interesting to numismatists such as identity theft and keeping one's collection secure.

tact source for local, self published, and historical authors, in addition to helping obtain reference material for club members. (Hint: They are also a great place to advertise your club!) A lot of independent authors combine informational presentations with book sales and are usually experts in their field.

Try utilizing your police and fire departments. Theft prevention, personal security, property scams, and identification theft prevention are police specialties. Crime prevention and safety lectures are especially important and useful to club members. The fire department can also give presentations on fire prevention and detection which again can be very useful to your club members.

Also, don't forget that you're likely not the only specialty club around. Most newspapers list area club and society group meetings that might be of interest to your members. Perhaps there are other clubs that are also looking for interesting programs and a reciprocal program arrangement works out well for everybody. It never hurts to ask and most clubs usually love the chance to expand their exposure to the community.

Lastly, keep in mind that the program is in reality entertainment on an educational level. Sometimes that idea gets lost in the presentation. I'm as guilty as any lecturer of sometimes losing sight of that concept. Follow the guideline that if your members gain knowledge or find value in a program you will have accomplished your educational goals of having club programs. Good Luck!

Author's Biographical Info

Born 12 February 1959, St. Louis, MO; vice-president of the Hemet Numismatists (also past president), retired US Navy (CPO); currently employed as senior instructor at Jim Wallace Skydiving School; collecting interests include fractional currency (U.S., Confederate states, obsolete, and merchant script), Western and Atlantic Railroad notes, and US coins and proof sets.

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Fractional Facts ... and False Starts

By Jim Wells

Fractional Currency was used for small change in Civil War-era commerce, such as in this general store.

The United States one-dollar bill has not always been our nation's smallest denomination of paper money. During the US Civil War, gold, silver, and copper coins were hoarded as the public feared economic hardships and distrusted the flood of paper currency. The resulting scramble for small change resulted in many unofficial substitutes for coinage, such as postage stamps, encased postage, copper Civil War tokens, and small-denomination private paper currency. Each of these fields now has many

General Spinner, the US treasurer, concocted and signed small sheets of stamps as a trial design.

collecting enthusiasts. But so does the solution made official by the US government: fractional currency, all with face values less than one dollar.

Investigating the fractional currency field—as with many numismatic series—starts with *facts*, such as production dates and quantities, denominations, designs, survival estimates, varieties, and catalog valuations. A search will also uncover—as with many numismatic series—several *false starts*: production failures, foibles, and frustrations that make fractional currency colorful and interesting.

The Basic Facts

United States fractional currency notes were first issued by the US government in 1862. Five issues of notes were eventually printed, in denominations from 3¢ to 50¢. These notes were in use until 1876 and were redeemable by the US Postal Office at face value in postage stamps.

Over the 15 years of production, the government created 23 types of fractional notes in six denominations, and in 18 different sizes! Most were redeemed or have been lost or destroyed. Of the $369 million in notes released, about $1.8 million remains outstanding. All are valid money today, but they have drawn the interest of many collectors, and have earned modest numismatic premiums above their face values.

The First False Start: Spinner's Stamp Sheets

In early 1862, the country struggled with having enough small change to carry on even the simplest commercial activities. Secretary of the Treasury Salmon P. Chase came up with two plans to alleviate the shortage of coins. He proposed a reduction in size of silver coins, and suggested the use of ordinary postage stamps as circulating change. Congress approved the postage stamp idea, creating a run on stamps at post offices. This irritated Postmaster General Montgomery Blair, who had not been consulted. Blair therefore refused to permit further sale of stamps for use as money. But many people had bought the stamps, and most turned into crumpled, sticky messes.

General Francis E. Spinner, the US treasurer, then hatched the idea to paste unused stamps onto treasury letterhead paper for convenience in handling. The purpose was to develop an idea of what "postage currency" might look like. It is doubtful if his pieces ever circulated, but a few survive today.

First Issue: Glorified Postage Stamps

The first issue consisted of 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, and 50¢ fractional cur-

The first series copied current postage stamps into the design.

rency notes issued in 1862 and 1863. This issue is known as postage stamp currency because they bore single or multiple facsimiles of the then current 5¢ and 10¢ postage stamps, akin to General Spinner's ideas. These notes were never legal tender but could be exchanged for United States notes in $5 lots and receivable in payment of all dues to the United States, up to $5. Over $20 million in notes were issued; unfortunately, counterfeit copies soon appeared.

The trial designs contained the heading "postage stamps" based on Congress' law. This was changed to "postage currency" on the production notes.

False Start: Perforated Edges

In the first few months of producing the first series, the sheets of notes were perforated like stamps. These were sold to banks and the public in sheets, so notes could easily be torn off as needed. Unfortunately, the perforating machines could not keep up with the heavy demand, so the banknote company reverted to plain sheets cut with scissors.

Second Issue: The Look-Alikes

In 1863, Treasury Secretary Chase asked for new fractional currency designs that were harder to counterfeit than the postage currency. The resulting second issue notes were different from the 1862 postage currency issues, but repeated the 5¢, 10¢, 25¢, and 50¢ denominations. The reverses sported more colorful printing.

The second issue fed right into the hands of counterfeiters: all four denominations

Oh, I owe you 60¢? Let me tear off two quarters and a ten-cent note from my perforated sheets.

Second issue notes were identical except the denomination and color used on the back.

look the same, and were the same size! That may work for today's currency, but in the 1800s, different denominations usually featured distinctive designs, and often different sizes. Each second issue note had a slate-colored face with a bronze oval centered on a portrait of George Washington. The face of each denomination used identical background vignettes of a riverboat and a harbor scene. The backs were different colors: brown, green, violet, or reddish-orange; the only differences were the denominations. Counterfeits again flourished.

False Start: "Postal Currency Coins" Proposed for Redemption

In 1862, the mint began experimenting with postal currency coins to provide a redemption system for fractional currency. The intent was to legitimize the currency by giving it a more solid backing, yet not equal to the regular coinage that was being widely hoarded. The postal currency coins had a reduced weight, but retained the 90% fineness of regular coinage. Low numbers of 10¢ patterns were struck in experimental lightweight silver, aluminum, copper, and tin. The obverse stated "EXCHANGED FOR U. S. NOTES" and the reverse read "10 CENTS 1863 / POSTAL CURRENCY ACT JULY 1862." Apparently, the results or the need did not justify continuation of the mintages, and the experiment was abandoned. Only a few examples survive.

Experimental "postal currency coins" were lighter than regular coins to prevent their own hoarding. This turned into another false start.

Third Issue: 3¢ Notes Added

The 1864-1869 third issue of notes introduced a fifth denomination—3¢ (perhaps to purchase 3¢ stamps?) —produced by the newly named Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP). The initial 50¢ notes showed a statue of Justice, but were extensively counterfeited. They were replaced with another design depicting Francis Spinner. Five-cent notes

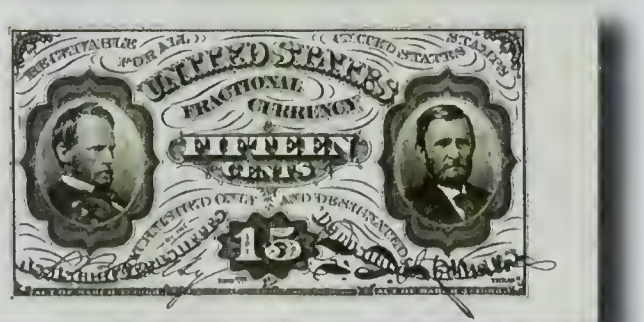
ACT OF MARCH 3d 1863
United States
RECEIVABLE FOR ALL U.S. STAMPS
THREE CENTS
FURNISHED ONLY BY THE ASSISTANT TREASURERS & DESIGNATED DEPOSITARIES OF THE UNITED STATES.
FRACTIONAL CURRENCY
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

The third issue included the only 3¢ note, and a TEN denomination that omitted the word CENTS.

were discontinued in 1866 when the 5¢ cupronickel coin was successfully introduced.

False Start: CENTS-less notes!

Through an oversight, the 10¢ note did not include the word CENTS anywhere on the note. Sounds like a forerunner of the CENTS-less 1883 nickel, except the Government did not "correct the error" by adding CENTS. Did any shysters try to pass them as ten-DOLLAR notes?



False Start: Living People Portrayed

Another clamor arose when three of the third issue denominations bore portraits of living officials of the Treasury department: William Fessenden, Spencer Clark, and Francis Spinner. No objections resulted from the portraits of the secretary of the treasury (Fessenden) or the treasurer (Spinner). But the portrait of the superintendent of the BEP (Clark) aroused controversy. Some believe Clark intended to use a portrait of William Clark (of the Lewis and Clark Expedition), and his underlings misunderstood. The portrait remained unchanged, but Clark was forced to resign. Congress later passed an act prohibiting portraits of living persons on future government securities. Plans to introduce a 15¢ note portraying still-living Civil War

The portrait of Spencer Clark during his lifetime was allowed, but Clark resigned his post. The 15¢ note designs with Generals Sherman and Grant were scuttled.

Generals Ulysses Grant and William Sherman were abandoned. Some specimen notes showing these Union heroes were printed but not released; they are highly valued today.

Colorful shield displays of the first three series of fractionals helped to identify counterfeit notes.

False Start: Shields Issued Early

To fight the widespread counterfeiting of fractional notes, the Treasury Department around 1866 issued "postage and fractional currency shields" for banks and businesses. The shields measure 21" by 24", and contain genuine notes of the first three issues mounted on a heavy cardboard for use in checking suspected counterfeits. Too bad, the shields preceded the fourth and fifth issues, which were also counterfeited! These colorful shields were not in high demand in their day, but are now popular with collectors. Only a few hundred survived intact.

The 15¢ denomination in the fourth issue showed Columbia; recently-martyred Abraham Lincoln was on a 50¢ note.

Fourth Issue: 15¢ Notes Added

The fourth issue, released between 1869 and 1875, consisted of four denominations, but included three designs of the 50¢ notes. The 15¢ denomination, abandoned when the third issue's design including living Americans, was restarted using an image of the bust of Columbia. Despite the use of security features such as silk fibers, watermarks, and Treasury seals, coun-

terfeiting remained extensive. The revered Abraham Lincoln appeared on the first 50¢ notes, but was replaced by Edward Stanton (a former secretary of war) and later Samuel Dexter (a former secretary of war and treasury). Most were printed by the National and American Bank Note Companies in New York, and some by the BEP.

The fifth and final issue honored a dour William Meredith and a smiling William Crawford, both former Secretaries of the Treasury.

Fifth Issue: Smallest Denominations Eliminated

The final fractional issue consisted of only three denominations, released between 1874 and 1876. Three of the smallest denominations: 3¢, 5¢, and 15¢, had been eliminated, after the proliferation of cupronickel 3¢ and 5¢ coins. Three former secretaries of the treasury were honored: William Meredith on the 10¢ note, Robert Walker on the 25¢ note, and William Crawford on the 50¢ note. Congressional Acts in 1875 and 1876 provided for redemption in silver coins, finally produced in sufficient quantities thanks to the Comstock Lode silver discoveries.

Collecting Fractional Notes

Fractional notes are common in today's numismatic offerings and shows. Many are offered at reasonable prices ($20 or so on up). As with most numismatic series, there are several ways to collect fractional currency. Suggestions from the easy to the difficult:

- Notes showing allegorical figures (Liberty, Justice, Colombia)
- One of each of the 6 denominations (3¢, 5¢, 10¢, 15¢, 25¢, 50¢)
- Notes showing one person (e.g., all seven types showing George Washington)
- Notes of a specific denomination (e.g., all eight types of 50¢ notes)
- Notes showing famous Americans (Washington, Jefferson, Lincoln) and/or not-so-famous Americans (Clark, Fessenden, Spinner, Stanton, Dexter, Meredith, Walker, Crawford)
- All 23 major types (this incorporates all the preceding options)
- All the different varieties (can be up to 30) for a specific type note, encompassing different overprinted plate numbers or dates, edge types, watermarks, and paper shades
- All 154 (and counting) varieties listed in current catalogs

Each option results in a colorful collection. Or, how about a more difficult goal: collecting the "false starts"? These include a Spinner trial sheet (possibly too rare), a perforated

note or sheet, a CENTS-less 10 note from the third issue, a 15¢ specimen note with Sherman and Grant, a postal currency coin (also rare), or even a postal currency shield? Now there's a real collecting challenge!

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Do You Have an Exit Strategy?

by Jim Waldorf

For many years in the course of my professional practice I have participated in assisting clients in planning an orderly transition into retirement from their business activity, usually something they have devoted most of their time and effort throughout their career. The easiest cases are those with a younger family member who has grown up in the business and has been trained to take the reins when the founder is willing to relinquish control. The major part of the planning then becomes arranging the transfer of the ownership to the next generation without creating major tax problems for the next generation of owners.

When the client has no immediate family members who are qualified or interested in following in the client's footsteps the complexities are magnified. While many business owners have subordinates who might be interested in continuing the business, frequently there is no one who has the managerial talents to handle all aspects of ownership. While they may have become proficient in sales, production, office management, etc., it is rare to find a successor who is familiar with the overall operation. I have seen this end in disaster on more than one occasion.

Finally, there were clients who had no obvious insiders who were qualified to fill the role of successor. In such instances, the larger clients might consider an IPO or a sale of the enterprise to a competitor. This usually entailed a great deal of time and considerable expense. For the smaller companies, the options were far more limited. Generally speaking, a small business, particularly a service related

In my case, the move from professional activities was planned well in advance, and the exit from professional life was smooth and well organized...

business, can be a nightmare when attempting to ease into retirement. The benefit to the retiring owner is frequently far less than he expects for an entity which he has spent a lifetime developing.

In my case, the move from professional activities was planned well in advance, and the exit from professional life was smooth and well organized, giving me the opportunity to devote my time and efforts to more enjoyable pursuits: golf, travel, and a coin collection which I had accumulated over almost 70 years. When unexpected health issues eliminated most travel, and severely curtailed golf on a regular basis, at least I still had my coins.

I eagerly perused the contents of safe deposit and storage boxes only to discover that I was overwhelmed with the volume and diversity of the accumulation. It was obvious that in order to make numismatics more enjoyable, it would be necessary to reduce the holdings to something more manageable. At 75 years of age, it also occurred to me that I was definitely playing the "back nine", and my future might be more limited than I had expected.

If I were to pass away without any prearranged strategy, what would I leave my heirs with, and what would become of the collections to which I had devoted some much time and expense? Without a wife, and three children who have become successful in their own right, but without any interest in numismatics, I cringe at what might occur. Six grandchildren are no help, because if it doesn't involve computers, they have no interest. Not having been active in numismatic organizations or activities for several years, I can't recall any close friends who could assist my heirs, since most of my closest relationships in coin collecting are no longer with us. This has created a quandary, and I suspect that I am not alone in this situation.

Where Have The Old Days Gone?

High-end numismatic properties should always be easy to dispose of through auction or with reputable dealers: early Americana in high grade, Charlotte and Dahlonega gold, early proof coins, etc. Most of us have too few of these. On the other hand, two complete sets of circulated Lincoln cents (most actually taken from circulation), and numerous other coins of collectible quality, are not so easy. We all seem to have miscel-

laneous treasures which we picked up along the way, maybe won at a coin club raffle, which don't really fit into our collection. I have found individual coins from South Africa, Pakistan, French Indo-China, and other exotic countries, in which I have never had a numismatic interest. Gone are the days when you could sell this material on a bid board at your local coin dealer, or group them for sale at a local auction.

I have specific coins which I recall purchasing from Abe Kosoff, Slim Dunbar, Sam Kabealo, Murray Singer and George Bennett, Federal Brand Enterprises in Cleveland, Bowers and Morena, and numerous other numismatic dignitaries of days gone by, none of which would be of any interest to most collectors of today. The few clubs which I have visited in the last 40 years are a mere shadow of the glory days of the hobby, with only a handful of members in attendance and more emphasis on social activities than coins.

Does Paper Have Any Value?

Probably not. What does one do with 50 or more years of *The Numismatist*, a complete set of *The NASC Quarterly*, many years of *Calcoin News*, and the *Canadian Numismatic Journal*, as well as publications from many other sources? The advent of the technology age has made most books, magazines, and other paper publications obsolete.

Numismatic research is now done on the computer to a very large extent, which is much faster and easier, to say nothing of the space it will save. I don't know what ever happened to the complete set of *National Geographic* of which Bill Wisslead was so proud, but I can't imagine it still has much value except as a contribution to a library.

Does Anyone Still Collect Medals?

I still recall when medal collectors proliferated the hobby. Generally speaking, they looked much like coins, were usually in mint condition, and commemorated some event or occasion of current interest, and were usually not overly expensive. I was never particularly attracted to this sphere of collecting, mostly because they never performed the function of money and did not circulate as a means of exchange. When Franklin Mint realized the potential of medal collecting, collectors realized that they could put together an attractive display without spending a fortune.

Like most of you who were active in numismatics, it was nearly impossible not to acquire a number of medals even if you weren't actively pursuing them. I had no idea how many accumulated over the years. Many years of COIN convention medals, CSNA medals, FUN medals, and many private issues. While those struck in

silver should still be worth the bullion value, those in the base metals would seem to have little intrinsic value. It would seem a shame to melt these attractive mementos for their metallic content, but I'm not sure what the alternative would be.

What Should We Do

Whether or not you agree with my analysis, I strongly recommend you seriously consider the future of your collection and create a strategy for the disposition of your collection while you are still in a position to do so. If you have worthy heirs who are interested in numismatics, and would be pleased to receive all or some portion of what you have accumulated, consider yourself blessed. If you are like the rest of us, then give some thought to how you should maximize the benefit from your years in the hobby.

If you are still in the income tax bracket where a tax deduction would be of benefit, a contribution of coins to a 501(c)(3) corporation might be an easy alternative. For the rest of us, I recommend the following steps:

(1) Streamline your collection by eliminating what you are no longer interested in;

(2) Select a person or entity in whom you repose trust to assist your successors in the event of your demise or incapacity;

(3) Be sure to put your instructions in writing (your heirs will probably not remember what you told them).

This is not necessarily a pleasant topic. But just think of the alternative: your executor or children walking into a strange dealer's shop and hoping he will give them a fair price for your treasures.

Enjoying Your Hobby?

Are you grateful for the fun you've had over the years?

Consider the enjoyment future generations can have if they're properly introduced to numismatics. Sure would be nice if there was an organization that was set-up to help spread the word...

Hey, that's just what CSNA and NASC do!

And now, you can help them to ensure that others get the message about our terrific educational hobby by making a tax-deductible donation today. Simply send a check to either of the association corresponding secretaries (addresses on page 9), identify your gift as a "fund-raising donation", and then receive acknowledgement in TCN (or not, as you wish) along with a tax-deductible receipt.

Roman Silver For Beginners

By Mark Benvenuto

Throughout history, different coins and different money have carried a lot of weight throughout wide parts of the world. Right now, a dollar bill—or any US paper money, for that matter—can be spent in a lot of places besides the US. Dial the calendar back 100 years or so, and you would find that the coins of Great Britain, especially the gold sovereign, could close a deal throughout large portions of the world. Dial it back even further and you would find many cities, countries, and a few empires that were quite willing to take Spanish colonial eight reales coins for just about any transaction. And go all the way back 2,000 years or so, and you would find that the coins honored across a huge portion of the world would be those of Rome.

Unfortunately for many enthusiastic collectors today, they feel that Roman coins are either too hard to collect, or too costly. That's a shame, as there are plenty of Roman coins that tell amazing stories, show some stunning artistry, and don't cost the proverbial arm and a leg. Let's concentrate on just one area, and outline how one might assemble a decent collection: Roman silver.

By the time Rome had become an empire, the denarius had a prominent place in its monetary system. Collectors today often comment that this may very well have been the coin Jesus used in his famous rebuke of the Pharisees, when he answered their question about paying taxes with,

This didrachm (7.17 grams), likely minted at Rome, shows Hercules on the obverse and Romulus and Remus (twins, children of Hercules) being suckled by a she-wolf on the reverse. Legend says they went on to found what would become the city of Rome in 753 BC. Below and at right are images of the twins from the classic arts.

"Render unto Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." Whatever that particular coin was though, it's very fair to say the denarius saw a lot of use throughout the empire. So, what was it, and how do you collect them today?

As to what was it, the denarius started out as a silver coin about the size of a US nickel, and over the course of 200 years or so degraded into a coin that was less than 50% silver, when a new coin, the antoninianus, was introduced.

As to how to collect them, here's where the fun begins. One very common way is to start with one denarius for each emperor, as the imperial portrait is always on the obverse. Augustus gets to go first, because Julius didn't take the title of emperor, even though he helped transform Rome from a republic to an empire. Then comes Tiberius, then the infamous Caligula, then Claudius. The list gets quite long, and we won't give a full accounting here. We will say though that there is a certain fondness for collecting one coin of each of the first twelve emperors, mostly because of the ancient author Suetonius' book, "The Twelve Caesars."

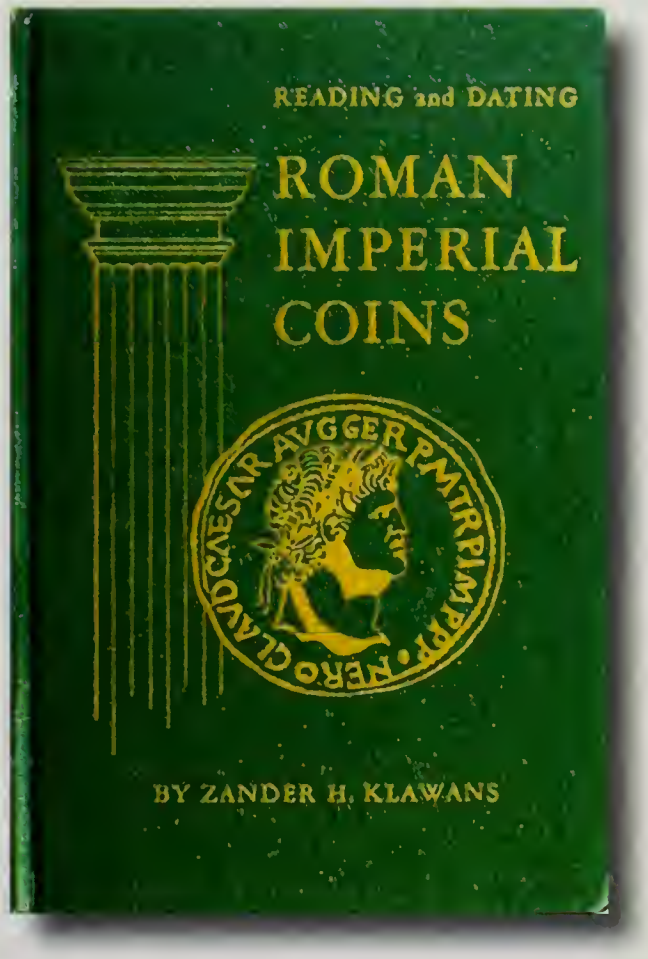
But you can easily go at this sort of collecting in a couple of different ways. For example, if the earlier emperors' denarii (yep, that's the plural of denarius) are too expensive, you might want to start with reverse designs. You see, the Romans were really pretty darn good at propaganda, and at advertising with their coins. The folks in the various imperial mints recognized that many people were illiterate, or at least were illiterate in Latin, so they used the reverse of their coinage for everything from showing

Denarius of Augustus (ruled 24 BC -14 AD) - 3.7 grams. His full title and name was Imperator Gaius Julius Caesar Octavianus Divi Filius Augustus and he was the founding emperor of the Roman Empire.

the personifications of Roman virtues, to commemorating one military victory or another (and no, they never commemorated defeats – that would be ridiculous!). It's really not that difficult to find Roman coins with the reverse dedicated to Pax (peace), or Pietas (that's piety or duty), or even Salus (that one is health and welfare). And there are plenty of Roman pieces with Virtus on the reverse (meaning military virtue, not moral uprightness). And if it's military victories that you want, there are plenty in this category as well, with arguably the most famous being the Judea Capta pieces, from when Rome took Jerusalem and much of present-day Israel.

One other way, a somewhat different one, to start out assembling a collection of Roman denarii is to try to get them with all the various obverse inscriptions one can. If the Romans were good at sending a message with the reverse of their coins, they were great at using abbreviations to jam a message around the front of them. For example, the emperor Titus was the man in the driver's seat when Jerusalem was taken. His full name was: Titus Flavius Caesar Vespasianus Augustus which probably wouldn't fit on a coin all by itself. So, on the obverse of his coins it often gets shortened to just plain 'T.' that's because IMP is often on there first, followed by T, then titles like AVG, then PM, then TRP, or perhaps PP, and maybe even COSIII. Put together, it might look like: IMP T AVG PM TRP PP COSIII. Spelled out in Latin it probably would be: IMPERATOR TITVS AVGVSTVS PONTIFEX MAXIMVS TRIBVNICIA POTESTATE PATER PATRIAE CONSVL III. Whew!

Believe it or not, you don't have to be a Latin scholar to understand all this – and you don't have to be a genius to see why they abbreviated so much. Imperator simply means 'emperor.' Augustus was a title many of the later emperors took, since Augustus was the first. Pontifex maximus means the high priest for the Roman



Good reference books are indispensible when it comes to reliably attributing and deciphering the varions ancient coin series. This reference by Zander Klawans is a common classic.

people. Tribunicia potestate is probably the hardest to infer. It means the tribunican power, or the head of the Roman state, which was a title sort of held over from the republic. Pater patriae is the father of the country. And Consul meant roughly the chief justice of the empire – but note the numeral after it. A consulship usually only lasted a year, which means the COSIII was the most likely the third year that Titus was consul—which can be correlated to a specific year in our current calendar! That's a neat connection. You can now collect emperors by date.

That whole exercise wasn't meant to be a trip down memory lane for those of us who took Latin way back when. Rather, it serves to let us know how a Roman coin can be dated, and why the wording was shortened so much. If it confuses you a bit, find a good book or two, or perhaps a website, to help give you a hand. We've listed just a couple, below.

With all that under our belts, it seems obvious that Roman coins don't have to be too intimidating to collect. The only thing you now have to worry about is price. Look at what is for sale the next time you attend a large show, and there are plenty of dealers. Are the silver denarii in your price range? If so, enjoy building a collection. If not, well then, Roman gold will certainly be too high, but look to Roman copper or bronze. The inscriptions and images don't change much, and the fun of building the collection is definitely the same. But if you can swing it, why not look at assembling a string of Roman denarii? After all, you just might be holding that which was rendered unto Caesar.

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The Best Mint Offerings You've Never Heard Of?

by Mark Benvenuto

Whether you are a brand new collector, or a wizened veteran of decades within the hobby, the chances are there is an entire series of items made and sold by the United States Mint that you have never heard of. You can go to the US Mint's store website and quickly find information on ordering annual proof sets, on the Presidential Dollar series, on the First Spouse series, and even on purchasing bags of coins. But way down at the bottom of the menu bar, buried in cyber-obscurity, is the word "Medals." Collectors one and all, we need to look at our Mint's medals.

It's a little known fact that the United States Mint produces the medals awarded in our armed services. Everything from the Good Conduct Medal to the Medal of Honor are made here, when and as needed. But these are not the medals we're talking about right now. No, we're going to take a glance at the medals that are produced because of one Congressional directive or another.

When you do get to the medals section of the United States Mint's store website, someone has made it easy, by dividing it all into sections. We'll go at it then, in that order.

Right: In 1917 advocates of women's suffrage, including Alice Paul, were picketing the White House. In January 1918, President Wilson embraced women's suffrage as a "war measure". The August 26, 1920, ratification of the 22nd amendment gave women the right to vote.

Opposite page: The last day to purchase products in the September 11 National Medal program is Monday, December 17, 2012, well after this TCN's publication date.

The 2011 September 11 National Medal

This is the only Mint medal that has a stand-alone section. The medal is an impressive piece of artistry, and does a good job of commemorating the day that changed so much within the U.S. And at $66.95, this is probably the most expensive of all the Mint medal offerings.

First Spouse.

There have been a lot of articles and announcements over the past few years about new Presidential dollars, but the First Spouse program has generally been a little less in the limelight. One almost forgotten piece of the program is the 1 and 5/16ths inch bronze medals of the First Ladies, for those of us who don't have the pocket change to shell out for $10 gold pieces. And holy cow, at $6.95 each, plus some postage, for a good looking bronze medal? This has got to be one of the most underrated series the Mint produces. Even if a person doesn't think the designs are tremendous, you could at least pick up the piece from bachelor president James Buchanan, since it sports what` appears to be a modern rendering of Mr. Christian Gobrecht's design for the classic gold coins of the nineteenth century (for presidents who served without a First Lady, some former US coin design is used on the $10 gold piece and the medal). You can also buy an entire year set of the medals, or each First Lady medal along with the Presidential dollar.

Historical

Here is where the medals program gets both fun and obscure at the same time. In the historical section, you have choices such as: Henry M. Paulson, Jr., or Yosemite National Park? It's not exactly a long odds bet that more folks will buy the Yosemite piece if they had to choose only one. But these are 3" bronze medals, and at $39.95 per item, you might be tempted to buy most or all of them,

14TH DALAI LAMA OF TIBET
TENZIN GYATSO
ACT of CONGRESS 2006
WORLD PEACE MUST DEVELOP
FROM INNER PEACE.
PEACE IS NOT THE ABSENCE OF VIOLENCE.
PEACE IS THE MANIFESTATION
OF HUMAN COMPASSION.

These medals were struck to honor Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet, in recognition of his many enduring and outstanding contributions to peace, non-violence, human rights and religions understanding. The reverse design features a stylized lotus flower, considered to be a symbol of purity.

then find out something about Mr. Paulson (okay, he was a Secretary of the Treasury).

Humanitarian/Cultural

Under this section, you now have such choices as the Dalai Lama or Byron Nelson – and we'll let you figure out the details of Mr. Nelson. But again, any wagers as to which is the more popular? There are a variety of different figures who have been honored by Congress with a medal – and plenty of them are here, available as a bronze 3" piece. Again, all these 3" versions are $39.95.

Military

Here's a section that will appeal to all sorts of folks, even if they aren't collectors. Congress has commemorated the Montford Point Marines, the Navajo Code Talkers, the bicentennial of several of our services, and quite a few other people and groups who have served in our armed forces. They've also done a thorough job of having both the 3" and the 1 and 5/16ths inch versions available, again with the prices we've mentioned, above.

Even if you are not an avid collector of medals, these are the kind of pieces that can be a great gift for some friend or relative who is in the service. The designs are usually pretty sharp, and there's plenty of history in the themes.

Presidential

Okay, even if everything else has just been a big, fat yawn for you, the presidential medals are pretty darn

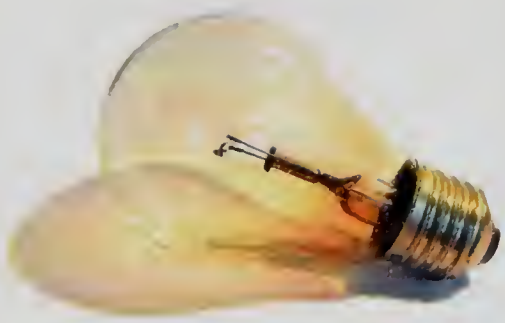
cool! There are plenty of collectors who are aficionados of one president or another. Most of us would love to have a medal or two with a president's noggin on it. All of our recent presidents are available within this section, as are the perennial favorites, Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Washington.

That recurring $39.95 price tag for a 3" bronze medal might very well turn out to be the best money you ever spent at the Mint. Yes, yes, these are not your traditional coins-as-investor-items. If you are collecting because you want to see your money grow, stick to high end Morgan and Peace dollars, and very high end Walking Liberty or Franklin half dollars. Maybe even go for something like a date run of our $50 gold eagles. All those should increase in value over time. No, our nation's medals are collector items pure and simple. If you pay $40 for one today, chances are good that it will be worth about that much for the next few decades – and nothing more. But the appeal in a collection like this is in finding out about the person or event that has been commemorated. After all, someone in Congress had to be keen enough on that particular person, place, or event to put a bill in place to have the medal made. Why did they do it? What made it medal-worthy? Those are questions to answer as you purchase your Mint medals.

Well, here's hoping we've opened an eye or two to a new facet of our hobby, even if we have come across like an ad for the Mint. Medals don't have to be something we just gloss over or pass by, and they don't have to be expensive. Go to our Mint's store website, and find out for yourself.

These were the first black Americans to enlist in the U.S. Marine Corps after President Franklin Roosevelt issued an Executive Order establishing the Fair Employment Practices Commission in June 1941. The recruits trained at Camp Montford Point, near Jacksonville, North Carolina.

Numismatic Luminary



by Jim Hunt

Our Numismatic Luminary was born in Brooklyn, New York, but moved with his family to California in 1962. After travelling across country, he, his brother, and his sister, shared a common experience: they all had contracted chicken pox. What an introduction to our Golden State.

Our Numismatic Luminary is a graduate of Cal Poly Pomona with a BS degree in geology. He was very active in extracurricular activities while in college, serving in student government for four years, and for two of those years he served as student body president. He has spent the bulk of his career in retail, holding various positions such as sales manager and regional buyer. He began his career at the Broadway, including opening a new store at South Coast Plaza. He subsequently moved to various locations working for Bullocks, Robinsons-May and Macy's. Interestingly enough, he now works at the home store for Macy's at South Coast Plaza, the same location where he started with Broadway 22 years ago. You have probably guessed by now that our Numismatic Luminary is none other than Harold Katzman.

Harold is a man with many interests. Besides numismatics, his hobbies include collecting gems and minerals, geology, science fiction (mostly Star Trek and Star Wars), reading, seeing the world on cruise ships, astronomy, and chasing eclipses. Harold has had two photos published from his travels and gives programs on his adventures. His numismatic hobby began at the age of 8 when his dad gave him some coins. His dad was in a business where he handled a lot of coins, so Harold could go through them, picking out specimens for his collection. His family has always been very supportive of his hobby. Harold's favorite areas of collecting are Space Shuttle medals and exonumia, US coins, proof sets, and type coins.

Harold's favorite numismatic stories came about as a result of his assisting people who had inherited coin collections, wanted to sell them, and came to him to establish their value. Among these collections were an Isabella quarter and a Lafayette dollar, uncirculated and in a B. Max Mehl holder. Another "collection", housed in a coffee can full of cents, included 1909-S Lincolns and Indians, a 1909-S VDB, and a 1922 no "D" cent in AU-55. This last coin is still in Harold's collection today.

Harold is a member of ANA, NASC, CSNA, and several local coin clubs. The first numismatic organization that he joined was the Upland Coin Club in the late 1970's. The first person he met at the club was Nona Moore and the second person, Ethel

Harold at the recent CSNA convention banquet in Long Beach.

Lenhert. When Harold joins a club, he becomes actively involved. He has served as president and vice president of the Pomona Valley, Upland, and Fontana Coin Clubs and as secretary of the Upland Coin Club as well. He has served as a board member of CSNA and as recording secretary, corresponding secretary, vice-president, and president of NASC. The most important award that he has received is the Goodson Award from the NASC. He says that the most important numismatic event in his life was joining his first coin club "and really getting involved in this wonderful hobby".

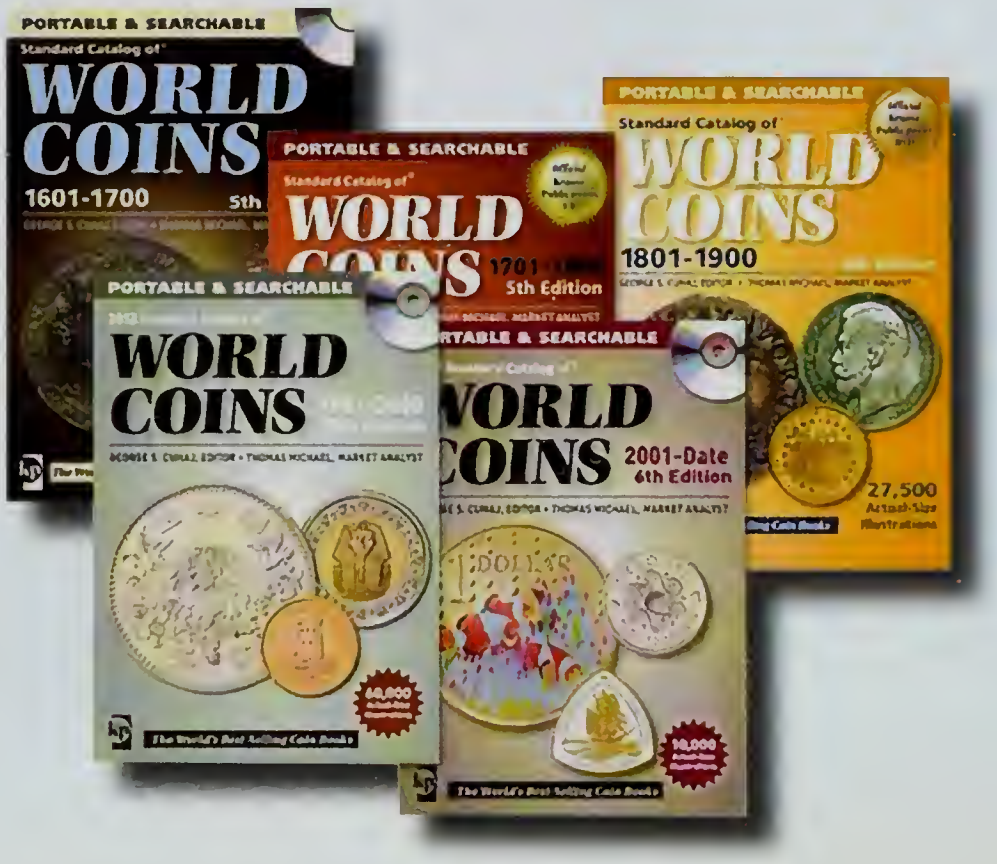
Harold's contributions to numismatic education include: associate editor for the *NASC Quarterly*, programs to coin clubs and senior citizen groups, organization of authentication and grading seminars for NASC, convention speaker, and award-winning exhibitor. He noted that his exhibit awards include a CSNA Best-of-Show.

Harold's advice to beginning collectors is simple and straightforward. Find areas that interest you and go with it. Perhaps become an expert in that area. Then share your love of that with others. That's great advice, Harold.

Book Review:

The Standard Catalog of World Coins, Krause Publications

by Donald L. Hill
CSNA Librarian (csnalibrary@gmail.com)



One of the questions frequently asked is, "What is this coin worth?" If the coin is a US coin, you probably have a guide, like the Red Book, to give you an idea of price as well as additional information about the coin. But if it's a foreign coin, the answers become more difficult. Where is it from? What is it made of?

To make sense of it all, you need a trusted and respected resource. For four decades the go-to resource has been *The Standard Catalog of World Coins,* published by Krause Publications. The most recent editions are:

- 1601-1700, Standard Catalog of World Coins, 5th Edition
- 1701-1800, Standard Catalog of World Coins, 5th Edition
- 1801-1900, Standard Catalog of World Coins, 7th Edition
- 1901-2000, 2013 Standard Catalog of World Coins, 40th Edition
- 2001-2011, 2012 Standard Catalog of World Coins, 6th Edition

Note that digital copies of these catalogs are available.

These phone-book size by-century volumes list by date virtually every coin type, most photographed, with mintage and other information, plus market valuations in up to five grades. Listings are by denomination rather than series. The century format is con-

sidered inconvenient by some who are collectors of coins by specific country. For example, if you want information on all English coins from 1601 to the present, you would need all five catalogs.

For coins minted in silver, gold, platinum and palladium there's additional information for determining precious metals values: total coin weight; fineness; and actual precious metal weight.

I have found that the digital (CD-ROM) versions are much easier to use and they take up a lot less space on the shelf. The books on CD are in a PDF format and can be searched by the computer. You have to have the computer program Adobe Reader to use the CD but Reader can be downloaded from the internet for free. Krause says that they are Mac and PC-compatible.

I consider a major benefit of using the CD version is that you can enlarge the images by using the zoom feature on your computer monitor.

Contributions from many collector experts and dealers are collated by the editors to create revised listings and valuations for new editions. It is important to remember that valuations may or may not reflect the market accurately, and collectors should use the Krause values as a starting point for their own market research. Volatility in precious metals may affect the base prices of many common silver and gold coins. These cautions apply to any printed valuation of coins.

You can contact the dealers who advertise in TCN to buy copies of the printed volumes or the CD versions. List priced at $73 to $85 (less for the shorter 21st Century catalog) they are often discounted, and can be found in many public libraries. Older editions are steeply discounted even though revisions between editions in many areas are minimal.

Enjoying Your Hobby?

Maybe so much you're "drowning" in assets?

Decades of collecting can cause one to accumulate a mountain of materials. Wouldn't it be great if there were a way to easily lighten the load?

Hey, CSNA and NASC can help with that!

Both organizations can accept your tax-deductible donation today, and will put those assets to work to help the hobby. Simply send a check to either of the association corresponding secretaries (addresses on page 9), identify your gift as a "fund-raising donation", and then receive acknowledgement in TCN (or not, as you wish) along with a tax-deductible receipt.

CSNA Convention Report

CSNA held it's southern convention the last weekend in October at the Holiday Inn. Showing the same quality of forethought and preparation as the one last year at the same place, the show and it's events went off without a hitch.

The Kuntz' hospitality event was a welcome chance for folks to get together Friday night after all the set-up work was finished and out-of-town travelers had a chance to arrive and get settled.

Saturday morning kicked off with a vigorous and productive board meeting (see report elsewhere in TCN), followed quickly by an again-successful Scout merit badge workshop. A second Scout workshop followed in the afternoon. The California Exonumist Society held their meeting/auction and the Saturday events wrapped up with a banquet held in one of the top-floor rooms. Sunday was a regular bourse day without any supplemental activities on the schedule.

Exhibits Chair Roy Iwata (l.) congratulates Bob Luna for his first place win in the US Coins category of the exhibits with, "The Many Horns and Legs of the Buffalo Nickel." Bob's exhibit also won the First-Time Exhibitor category.

Ken Spindler (l.) receiving International Numismatic Society of San Diego's 50-year membership certificate from CSNA President Gary Beedon. Ken also won first place in Foreign Coins with "Topical Coin Collecting—Composers of Classical Music," and took Best of Show with that same exhibit.

CES President Lila Anderson and Phil Iverson. Phil's exhibit in the Miscellaneous category, "Century 21 Fair Review," took first place (for CSNA), and won the CES Best of Exonumia.

Jim Hunt (l.) receives a handshake from Roy Iwata for Jim's second place award in the Miscellaneous category for his exhibit on "Tecumseh".

Not present to pick up his Foreign Coins second place award for "2012 Year of the Dragon, 10 Ounce Silver Lunar Year Coin", and Currency category first place award for "Three Central Bank Notes of Taiwan (1941-1946)" was Robert Wu. Plus, he missed out on a rousing good time as seen here at a table with (from left) Herb Miles, Joel Anderson, and Lila Anderson.

TCN Editor Greg Burns received the CSNA Medal of Merit for his work with TCN, involvement with the executive board, and obviously for his magnificently sophisticated pate, unencumbered by any odd barbaric growth. Presenting the medal was past recipient, the mirthful Jim Hunt.

The CSNA Convention General Chairman Phil Iversen (l.) received an off-metal set of convention medals from President Gary Beedon. The medals program has been postponed at this time, so these may be the last presentations of this kind that we'll see.

Convention medal designer Jim Hunt received a set of off-metal convention medals from Medals Chair Joyce Kuntz. The medal featured the Skunk Railroad, and is certain to be very popular.

Outgoing CSNA President Gary Beedon received a plaque of appreciation from incoming President Michael Turrini.

A surprise birthday cake appeared after dinner for Kay Edgerton Lenker on the occasion of her ninetieth birthday. Actually, two cakes were served, one white and one chocolate (I had a piece of both...<grin>). Congratulations to Kay!

CSNA President Gary Beedon presenting a token of appreciation to the evening's Master of Ceremonies Al Lo. Al's a funny guy even when he's serious, so you can imagine the yuk's that were going on when he turned on the laugh switch. Thanks for the good time, Al!

Gary also presented celebrity Garret Burke with a token of appreciation for agreeing to perform the installation of officers. Garrett rounded out a well-attended, interesting, and persuable banquet.

Below: outgoing executive board.

Bottom: incoming executive board being installed by Garrett Burke.

CSNA Northern Educational Symposium Report

From left: Herb Miles, Dr. Robert Chandler, Harry Davis, Lloyd Chan, Michael Turrini, and Larry Benson.

CSNA held their Northern California Educational Symposium at the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum on September 29. The four speakers included Herb Miles on the Pony Express, Lloyd Chan on ancient coins, Larry Benson on "The Color of Money", and Dr. Robert Chandler on "Tales of Gold and Gold as Tales".

The mid-day break found many of the symposium attendees enjoying some of the local diners for lunch, including easy banter and good food. It was a great way to rub elbows with everyone who had showed up for the symposium, including all of the speakers. Quite a few of us ended up at Gracie's Family Barbeque, a great place to eat right in the downtown area.

There were also several interesting exhibits, including Bob Luna's counterfeit dollar collection with examples of seated, Morgan, peace, draped bust, trade, and silver eagle dollars. Who knew the Chinese were so prolific?

The day wrapped up with door prizes being given out. Seems like there was almost a door prize for everyone that showed up.

Left: Harry Davis making presentations to each of the speakers. Below: Michael Turrini presenting CSNA President's Medals to James Kern and Lloyd Chan.

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Above: Lloyd Chan, like many other successful speakers at this and previous symposiums, uses plenty of interesting images to illustrate his talk. Often a program such as Microsoft's Powerpoint is used to pull together photos and text into a presentation. Highly recommended.

Below: (from left) Harry Davis, Robert Belleau, Irene Carrillo, James Kern, Bob Luna, James Laird, and Michael Turrini, all jovially receiving a special presentation at the symposium of "Tokens of Esteem" for support from the Vallejo Numismatic Society.

Two California Beach Community Tokens

Joel and Lila Anderson issued tokens for the two beach vacation rentals they own in Oceano, an unincorporated beach community of about 7,200 residents located on the Central California coast, a few miles south of the City of Pismo Beach. It is the home of the Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreational Area and includes much of Pismo State Beach. Other activities include camping, riding all-terrain-vehicles in the sand, horseback riding, surf and lagoon fishing, bird watching, wine tasting, and surfing. In late spring and summer one can often watch whales and dolphins from the shore. The nearby Monarch Butterfly Grove is popular in winter. The magnificent Hearst Castle and Solvang Danish Village are each about an hour away.

In 2008 they issued a brass-plated zinc token for the Birds of a Feather Vacation Home. The 27mm token has the obverse of the famed 1787 Brasher gold doubloon, the first gold coin struck in the United States. The reverse pictures a toucan and a parrot. Initially 1,000 tokens were struck, but they proved so popular with collectors and guests of the beach house that an additional 1,000 were struck in 2012.

It is one of the few tokens ever issued from Oceano.

In 2012 they issued a token for another vacation rental, Shell-ebration Beach House. One side of the silver-plated zinc token features the design of a 1743 pillars piece-of-eight from the Mexico City mint. However the 27mm token is about the size of a 2 reales rather than an 8 reales. The other side depicts a Pismo clam. One thousand tokens were minted.

Both tokens were struck by Patrick Mint in Santa Rosa. The tokens are available from the Andersons for $3 each or both for $5, plus $2 shipping. The Andersons may be contacted at PO Box 365, Grover Beach, CA 93483, by e-mail at Joel@JoelsCoins.com, or by phone at 805-489-8045.

Members in the News

CSNA Recording Secretary Virginia Bourke was honored at the recent ANA World's Fair of Money in Philadelphia as one of the two ANA members to be honored with the 2012 Glenn Smedley Memorial Award in recognition of her positive attitude, strong communication skills, cooperation, and dependability. An ANA member since 1963, Ginny has held a host of critical positions, both in San Diego and other local clubs, as well as various state-level and national associations, including both CSNA and NASC. Congratulations, Ginny! You're an inspiration to us all.

Cole Schenewerk's entry on "The Myriad Metals Used in Coinage," won third-place in the Q. David Bowers Young Numismatist Literary Award category, and was presented at the ANA's Summer Seminar in Colorado Springs. Cole received an award certificate plus a $100 book voucher. Congratulations, Cole!

The exhibit award listings were graced with TCN readers names as well. Author **Jim Wells** took first-place in the Paper Money category with "Dixie's Denominations, Dixie's Dilemmas". TCN reader from Bricktown, New Jersey, **Archie Black**, won third-place in Modern US Coins and Modern Medals with "A Selection of ANA Convention Badges". And **Kay Edgerton-Lenker** won second-place in Numismatics of Europe with "Catherine II The Great of Russia". TCN reader from Ocala, Florida, **John Wilson**, won second-place in the Convention Theme category (Philadelphia: Birthplace of US Money) with "Philadelphia Obsolete Notes, $1 to $1,000". Finally, **Don Kagin** won first-place in the Emeritus category (not otherwise eligible for competition) for "Treasury Notes of the War of 1812: The First Federal Circulating Currency". Congratulations to all!

RIP SUSCC

From a letter earlier this year, the Society for United States Commemorative Coins (SUSCC) has decided due to limited interest and the health/aging issues of those maintaining the bulk of organization operations to disband.

Remaining funds from the organization's accounts are to be disbursed to the ANA in support of exhibit awards and general library operations. Interested parties may express opinions on this to concluding president, Anthony Swiatek. Better hurry.

RIP Harlan White

Harlan White, 84, of San Diego, member of CSNA and founder of The Old Coin Shop in San Diego, passed away in August. Harlan was a director of the Professional Numismatists Guild from 1985 to 1995, and received their lifetime achievement award in 2009. The California Coin and Bullion Merchants Association honored Harlan with its Exceptional Service Award in 2010, which was presented at the spring 2010 CSNA Southern Educational Symposium by then-ANA President Barry Stuppler.

NASC Membership Application

Membership Category	Cost
Junior (under 18)	$10
Individual	$20
Individual (3 years)	$55
Club	$30
Sustaining (lifetime)	$300

Includes subscription to *The California Numismatist!*

Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____

State:_____Zip:_____

I herewith make application for membership in the association subject to its constitution and by-laws,

Signature:_____

Sponsored by (optional):_____

Mail along with check/money-order for the amount of the dues noted above to:

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Attn: Harold Katzman, Corresponding Secretary
P.O. Box 3382
Tustin, CA 92781

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Mar 9-10 Buena Park Coin Show
Mar 14-17 Baltimore Expo, Baltimore Convention Center
April 12-14 PNNA, Tukwila, WA
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Goings On

by Greg Burns

Lotsa stuff going on with both organizations, so let's dive right in. We'll start with CSNA this time.

The group met in late October at the convention held in Long Beach. The meeting was brief, but intensive.

Michael Turrini gave his corresponding secretary's report (see up front in TCN for membership info), also mentioning he'd help arrange a funds-appeal letter to go out to life members.

Michael Turrini also talked about the recently held educational symposium up north (see report in this issue), and said that he was already working on next year's event.

Roy Iwata gave a treasurer's report showing assets of $51,648.94, though it did not include all of the convention and banquet costs yet. We are down from the previous year by $4,622.92.

Herb Miles and Stephen Huston presented a budget proposal, including an analysis of the past five years. Current operating capital covers roughly five years into the future, and all present agreed the group should be examining our financial course more rigorously. The general agreement after much discussion was that a balanced budget was the responsible thing to do, and to that end I agreed to examine a few options regarding the major expense of both CSNA and NASC: TCN.

The three main ways to control TCN expenses, as expressed at the meeting, are:

- Reduce page count. The next lowest cost-efficient page count for TCN (now self-covered with 80 total pages) would be 64 pages. It would mean squeezing a bit, but perhaps doable.
- Drop from four to three issues per year. Could be done pretty easily (hey, would sure ease my load), but runs into problems when one considers that TCN is the journal of record for both associations, and this would inhibit our ability to document the "goings on" of the two groups.
- Switch from full color throughout to black and white. Speaking as the guy who does the layout work: ick.

After the meeting I thought about all three options a bit more, as well as what the purpose of TCN is and its relation to the budget over the long-term. Especially, I considered that some of the extraordinary incomes CSNA and NASC receive are "lumpy" in that they're hard to predict from a date-received standpoint. I'm speaking specifically of endowments and bequests. Some of our members, upon their passing, have bequeathed significant sums to the two associations (like on the order of $10,000 or more), and it's impossible to predict when and if such income may appear in the future. But what I do know is that over the ten-plus years I've been watching the coffers, I see that the lump of cash

Contributor to Yeoman's Redbook Since 1978
Life Member: ANA, NASC, CSNA

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stays roughly around the same level. I suppose what I'm saying is that an annual budget doesn't take any of that infrequency into consideration, and perhaps gutting TCN may be a premature reaction. Oh well, brighter minds than mine will figure it out. I'll just do my part and put the numbers together.

Joyce Kuntz regretfully recommended we suspend the medals program due to lack of interest and high silver prices resulting in poor profitibility. She and Lee have run the medals program for 20 years now, investing much personal energy and devotion to it. While the board agreed that it seemed appropriate to suspend the program at this time, it did so reluctantly and with fervent hopes that at some point in the future we'd be able to reverse this decision. Ironically, Joyce stated that the Skunk Train medal, our last, would probably be a sell-out due to the subject popularity.

Librarian Don Hill said that the library is often quiet (I suppose they're supposed to be that way), and that the biggest request is for appraisals. He usually refers folks to the proper books for that purpose. Without an acquisition budget Don relies on donations in order to acquire new releases. Unfortunately, most donations are of older books from expiring members, and don't include the newer releases so often sought by enquiring members.

Stephen Huston gave a webmaster/database-manager report. He offered to set-up "calcoin.org" e-mail addresses for any of the board members wishing them, and generally seemed pleased with the reliability of the new hosting service provided by Editor Burns. Stephen also briefly discussed possible areas of expansion for our Website and relayed cautions about the need for personnel to provide the content and manage the day-to-day dialog that could result from new features. As a result, a committee of Don Hill, Herb Miles, Joel Anderson, and Stephen Huston were commissioned with the task of exploring the necessary resources and plans to further our Web exposure.

The decision was made to change the title of the YN column to "The Emerging Collector" in recognition that age isn't the defining quality of those new to the field.

A light at the end of the tunnel was seen regarding a possible Northern California CSNA convention. Michael Turrini reported he had plunked down a $100 deposit against a show to be held at the Vallejo Veterans Memo-

rial Building, 420 Admiral Callaghan Lane, Vallejo, CA. The financials look feasible, the venue appropriate, and the dates of September 8-9 set-aside for a 2013 event (subject to budget approval). There's a lot of work yet to be done if we want this effort to bear fruit, but so long as we keep our expectations reasonable there's no reason it can't happen. Sounds like we should be able to solidify our plans for this at the January board meeting to be held in San Jose.

The election of officers and directors resulted in a "white ballot" (no contested positions), so we're able to forego the expense of a mail election:

- President Michael Turrini
- Vice President Howard Feltham
- Corresponding Secretary Donald L. Hill
- Recording Secretary Lila Anderson
- Treasurer Joel Anderson
- North Directors: Herb Miles, Al Lo, Robert Luna, and Gordon Stubbs
- South Directors: Brad Yanakama, Ken Stempien, Harold Katzman, Greg Schenewerk

An installation ceremony for all of the positions was held during the banquet at the Long Beach convention. In accordance with the by-laws the new office holders formally take effect of their new positions on January 1, 2013.

Next meeting of the CSNA group will be at the January show in San Jose.

Next, let's turn our attention to the NASC meeting of November 11.

Harold Katzman's corresponding secretary's report can be found in the front of this TCN.

Treasurer Kay Lenker gave a financial report that showed NASC held $39,192.08 in net assets. There were some entries that attendees had questions on, and Kay said she'd re-do the report within 30 days to answer them.

There being no historian to replace Nona Moore, now passed, there was no report from that front. If you'd like the job, please apply. I'm sure new President Jaramillo would be grateful.

Walt Ostromecki relayed that the ANA was trying to develop a greater presence at major shows, that counter to reports of recently past years the west coast would again enjoy ANA events, the 2015 Money Show being scheduled for Portland, and the 2016 event possibly also in SoCal.

Don and Terry Foster were strong-armed into the awards position again, with their stipulation being that there be greater interest from members/board in nominating some of the wonderful people in the SoCal numismatic scene for the various awards. See page 71 for the form and please be sure to send it in as soon as you can, for there is short time available for the process.

A short report on the recent awards recognition event held at the Arcadia golf course restaurant highlighted that the venue was very well-received by those attending, and that we'd coordinate better on publicizing the event for 2013 in the hopes of greater participation.

Like CSNA, NASC reported a reduction in assets for 2012, down about $2,400. Sounded like 2011 was up $2,000, but wasn't sure I heard that right. Either way it seems the multi-year trend is down.

The "Member Club Gold Benefit Drawing" held at the Golden State Coin Show (GSCS) was profitable to

the tune of about $500 or so. NASC doesn't pursue this as a money-raiser, but more as a way for member clubs to pull in funds (local clubs often being short of cabbage). When a member club sells a $2 ticket, they get to keep $1...a good deal for the club. Leading the list of top-sellers were San Bernardino County Coin Club ($451.50), Covina Coin Club ($249), and Upland Coin Club ($186).

By the way, I'm enjoying a Tobin James 2009 Primitivo right now. It's been well aerated and tastes quite lovely at this point. Just thought you'd want to know. Keeping on...

After much discussion a committee was set up to examine the feasibility of a "Nona Moore Junior Fund Gold Drawing", a YN-oriented fund which would receive assets from some type of auction or drawing. To that end Kay Edgerton Lenker donated a gold coin, and the committee, composed of Alex Jaramillo, Tony Micciche, Harold Katzman, Mary Yahalom, and Janet Reeves (I think I got all that correct, but with all that Primitivo and the obscurity of my meeting notes can't be certain) will be reporting back to the executive group "within 60 days". We'll see what happens.

The GSCS committee confirmed next year's show dates as August 24-25, saying we needed more dealers (bourse not sold out in 2012), and establishing Alex Jaramillo as the general chairman, with Walt Ostromecki, assisted by Kay Edgerton Lenker, as the bourse chairman.

Though NASC hasn't struck any medals recently, Harold Katzman as medals chair, said that we'd dispose of past aluminum stock as give-aways at the next banquet.

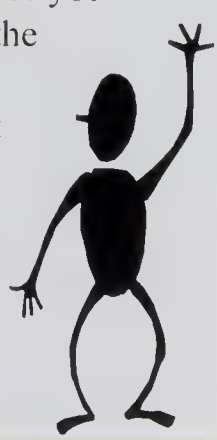
There was some discussion on changing the price of life membership to a two-tiered structure: $500 for those under 50 years of age, and $300 for those 50 and older...takes effect at the beginning of the new year.

The Visual Education Library (slides, tapes, that kind of thing) isn't getting much use, and the group wonders if it should be donated, perhaps to the ANA or...?

A short discussion on YN topics emphasized that the Scout event at the 2012 GSCS pulled in 54 youths. That's a pretty significant number, though most of them don't translate into anything other than an "I got my patch and now am moving on to something else." But every gardener knows that not all seeds germinate. Spread enough around and sooner or later you'll have a crop worthy of harvest. One of the other highlights at the GSCS YN table was the penny squisher brought by Don Berry.

Much of the remaining discussion was a rehash of the same discussions from the last ten years of meetings I've attended. Nothing new, so I won't grind away at your cognitive functioning by repeating it here.

The next NASC board meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2013 at the same venue, the Arcadia Masonic Center in Duarte. I'll be there (as I always am) and hope to see you there, too. I'll also be at the San Jose CSNA board meeting on January 26 at 8AM (ouch).



Till then, hope your holidays, whatever flavor they may be, are delicious and satisfying...

The Emerging Hobbyist

by Michael S. Turrini

Without going into a lengthy explanation, this *Youth Corner* has been altered to *The Emerging Hobbyist* in an attempt to provide assistance not just to young collectors, but potential collectors of all and any ages.

Briefly, this became as an outgrowth of discussions and earlier *Youth Corners*, reflective of an approach to benefit and to encourage the maximum number of prospective members into our association as well as our world of money.

With this new or improved theme, your Youth Numismatist Coordinator, still retaining the old title, decided to ask and to converse with someone who could be easily classed an emerging hobbyist, namely James E. Kern, the executive director of the Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum, who is an avid advocate of the CSNA Northern California Educational Symposium held at the Museum.

Jim fits the unscientific criteria of an emerging hobbyist: at age 54 he has an established career in history and museums, as a youngster he collected from circulation, has a professional education and career, and does specialize in one facet of numismatics, elongates, often traveling with his wife, a non-collector, to places that roll those infamous squished pennies. But, his interest is secondary to other avocations and his career.

Jim did offer some points and elements important to the novice, beginning, or potential coin collector, or coin hobbyist as some might address. He articulated these as the following:

- Read a lot.
- It does not have to be an expensive hobby. There are bargains out there at the entry level.
- On the other hand, do not be afraid to spend some money on something you really like, as it might become the basis of a collection.
- Collect what you like.

- As a beginner, buy a little bit of a lot of different things, until you find your niche.
- Join clubs to meet like-minded people.
- Buy adequate supplies to care for your collection.
- Do not seek the perfect coin(s).
- Make time for your hobby.

Jim really emphasized the last point. Often we have an interest or pursuit, but life, the family and kids, cutting the lawn, watching the Niners (for us Northern Californians!), or paying bills take time away and obligates our time. According to Jim, make the time, set aside one or two hours a week just for your hobby. In his case, often late in the evening, as his wife retires early, he is down in his basement working on his elongates and just enjoying these.

His insights may be common, but my exchange with him was predicated upon learning and listening from someone not in our hobby but aware of it and wanting to become further involved. In fact, Jim proposed a question to our TCN readers, "How would you advise a potential coin hobbyist if he or she were given $100 to spend in or about coins?" Jim's observation is where does one begin, and how could you answer that question? Any thoughts?

Jim added something interesting, and something shared by your Youth Numismatist Coordinator: there exist strong similarities between numismatics, coins, and philately, stamps, even though many would refute or disagree. He noted that with both you can collect current, from circulation, as well as older, not current. You can be quite inexpensive, or you can spend small and large fortunes, and you can be either United States or worldwide.

While Jim's comments most likely are shared by others or known, as this column evolves into the *The Emerging Hobbyist*, it seemed best to begin with one. Thanks, Jim!

Sidebar: As Jim's career and training is in museums, he equally has some solid suggestions as to preservation and documentation, both of good interest to coin hobbyists. In a future column, these might be shared.

Closing, future columns shall not forget our young hobbyists and their needs as well as those involved here with traditional young numismatists in the Golden State.

We Get Letters...

Enjoyed Article

Dear Greg,

Enjoyed Len Ratzman's article (*Discrimination?*) regarding "Antiques Roadshow". He answered a question I never thought of asking, but should have. The answer, seems obvious now, *Show Biz*.

Still looking to read a story in your TCN [on] *Bank Die Packs to Die For*, which interest was sparked, for me, by the exhibit at the last ANA Los Angeles convention circa 2009...

—Don Whaley

PS - Did you hear about the Amish woman who wanted a divorce? Her husband was driving her buggy!

Been Around a Long Time

Back in 1962 I joined the Whittier Coin Club (#64) in January 1962. I am now the ONLY fifty year member of the WCC.(Now LM2).

In February 1962 I joined NASC and now also a 50 year member (no doubt a very small group of us) I am LM21.

And in Februiary 1962 I gave my first coin club talk to the Los Angeles Coin Club. They gave me a nice laminated plaque signed by Daisy Snyder and Ted Weber. The plaque was donated to the ANA recently along with some fifty years' accumulation of letters, photographs, certificates, convention memorabilia, and ephemera. My ANA 50th comes up in 2014 (LM805)..

—Dr. Sol Taylor

Congratulations on such a lengthy and distinguished numismatic career, Sol. You've been contributing to the national hobby scene in one way or another tremendously for many decades. Hope you keep it up for many more <grin>... GB

Richard Smith's Passing

Please remove Richard A. Smith, 1850 San Leandro Blvd., San Leandro, CA 94577, from your mailing list. He is Please remove Richard A. Smith deceased.

Thank you,
Elyssa Eldridge
IMT Associates

SF Mint Update

Received 10/4/12 from Jim Hunt:

Gentlemen,

At long last we finally have a signed MOU to develop a 10,000 square foot state of the art money museum at the Old San Francisco Mint. The museum will focus on the story of our gold rushes and the minting

process. I very much look forward to the progress and development of this achievement as we move forward.

Our next daunting step will be to work with the San Francisco Museum and Historical Society (of which I am on the Board of Directors) to raise $45 million through donations and the sale of naming and dedication rights to rooms, displays, bricks and exhibits. This will take place over the next 10 months to 2 years for the first phase (vault/coin floor and first floor development). We also hope to get funding from the proceeds of a 2013 Commemorative Pan Pacific Expo Coin.

The Pan Pacific coin will also be an uphill battle given the March of Dimes also have a bill passed for the same date but through additional efforts in Congress, we hope to be able to secure that date for the Pan Pacific Expo.

Please let me know if you have any questions and may I express a sincere congratulations to all.

Don Kagin

New Author Arrives!

Dear Greg Burns,

First, congratulations are in order for your winning First Place for Outstanding Regional Numismatic Publication. Your hard work is obvious in the excellent publication you produce. I hope you can find a space on the wall to hang it along with the other seven! Also Congratulations to Jack Von Blocker, Janet Reeves, and Mike Shaw on their NASC newsletter publication awards.

I finally decided to join the writing bandwagon with the attached article. It's not very numismatically interesting but perhaps it may help a new club officer out with some suggestions. If you decide to publish it, feel free to edit it in any way you see fit. I also have a couple of currency articles that I'm working on and will probably submit them later this year. Again, thanks for your efforts!

—Jim Phillips

Hi Jim,

Hello. Thanks for the generous compliments and congratulations. I and all my like-employed compatriots appreciate them.

How nice to receive an article from an author new to TCN. Don't worry, I guarantee that there will be many readers interested in your article. I've held the position that you now enjoy (grin) and know that all suggestions for program material are welcome. I've plugged your piece into the next TCN and will look forward to your currency articles later this year.

In the meantime, I'll be attending the CSNA convention later this month and will of course also go to the banquet. If you attend as well, or if you happen to see me roaming the bourse, please stick your hand out and say, "Hello!"

Regards,

Greg

Auction Fee Controversy

Dear Greg,

I was so disappointed and alarmed to see that Heritage and Stack's decided to increase buyer's fees from 15% to 17.5 %.

Heritage advertises they are the third largest auction company in the world with sales approaching a billion dollars annually. Aren't they making enough money?

With the diminution of the local coin stores, the Internet presents an opportunity for a hobbyist with a limited coin-buying budget to bid on lots without being present at the auction.

From an actual Heritage invoice for a coin I won in one of their on-line auctions:

Winning bid, $170 dollars, add the juice (17.5%) $29.75, add shipping and handling, $9.65, and sales tax $16.92, you wind up paying $226.32 for the $170.00 coin for a total of $56.32 on top of the winning bid. That's 25% in fees you must swallow to get the coin in your mail box. Unless of course the coin you purchase is over $1500, then there is no sales tax. (This is from an invoice before the fees increased, I increased the fee to 17.5% for the purpose of this letter.)

What can we do about these egregious price increases? I for one stopped participating in Internet auctions of Stack's-Bowers and Heritage and I look to the Internet coin auctions that retain the 15% buyer's fee.

I feel we must take a stand by sending a message to these "coin investment corporations" that the coin hobbyists will not stand for such unnecessary increases that stem from corporate greed instead of interest in coin collecting. If we as coin collectors don't protest these increases, a 20% fee is just around the corner.

Sincerely,

—Evan Kopald

Hi Evan,

Thanks for the letter. I have no idea what the "right number" is for auction fees, and certainly empathize with your lament about forking over $226.32 for a coin you bid $170 for (though I'll point out that the $16.92 for tax doesn't go to the auction company, and I suppose one could avoid the $9.65 S/H fee by arranging local pickup), but I suppose this is one of those things that the capital markets are supposed to work out and keep in check. If one auction venue is more efficient than another they can charge lower fees and theoretically beat their competition when it comes to attracting consignors and bidders.

Personally, whenever I bid in an auction I try and keep in mind what the total fees are, and set my bid back from what I'm willing to pay by an equivalent amount. I suppose that's what most people do, and I assume you did that when you bid the $170 for the coin you won at auction. So from that point of view it's really the seller who's getting shorted (in addition to any seller's fees). It's interesting to see the various venues clamoring for auction business. I'd love to see an article from someone comparing the traditional auction houses with Ebay and other internet-based sites, coin shows, walk-in stores, etc. I suppose each has a particular strength when it comes to a certain type of transaction (value and popularity of the item, etc.)

Regards,

Greg

Hey, You Talkin' to Me?!

Hi Greg,

Did you know that there are 39 anagrams for the word *editor*?

The important one is *redo it*.

—Gary Beedon

Ha, ha, I'm all too familiar with that one! GB

ANA Report

by Jim Hunt

The latest World's Fair of Money was held in Philadelphia in August. As usual, it was a very exciting convention with so many activities and options that you could never take advantage of all of them. California, CSNA, and NASC were well represented at the show. In addition to the dealers and ANA officials, I met with many who had made the long trek across the country to attend. Dorothy Baber, Kay Lenker, Jim Wells, Greg Schenewerk, Cole Schenewerk, Albertus Hoogeveen, Mike and Marjorie Shaw, Bob Fritsch, Oded Paz, and Paul Whitnah. *Money Talks* (Numismatic Theatre) presentations were made by Sol Taylor ("Cherry picking the Lincoln Cent"), Jim Wells ("The War of 1812: The Notables, The Navies, The Numismatics"), and Jim Hunt ("The Comstock Lode and the Carson City Mint"). Several of our members also served as judges of the numismatic exhibits: Larry Baber, Robert Fritsch, James W. Hunt, Oded Paz, James R. Wells. Three other Californians attending the convention are also prominent officials in the ANA: Vice President Walter Ostromecki, Jr., Treasurer Larry Baber, and Executive Director Jeff Shevlin.

Our members were not left out when it came to receiving recognition and awards. Jim Wells was a first place award winner in the United States Fiscal Paper Money category for his exhibit titled, "Dixie's Denominations, Dixie's Dilemmas". The coveted Glenn Smedley Award was given to Virginia Bourke and accepted on her behalf by Kay Lenker. The San Diego Numismatic Society was recognized for its 75 years of membership in the ANA, and TCN Editor Greg Burns received first place regional publication recognition for the eighth year in a row for *The California Numismatist*.

One of the highlights of the auctions conducted by Stack's Bowers, was the sale of the Battle Born Collection. Part of the Rarities Night Auction, it featured the only complete collection of coins from the Carson City Mint. The only other complete collection to ever be assembled was that of Louis Eliasberg. The collection on display in the Nevada State Museum (Old Carson City Mint) lacks the two rarest coins. The 1873 no-arrows dime sold for $1,840,000 with the buyer's fee included. The entire official ANA auction realized over $42,000,000.

By the time you read this, the ANA fall National Money Show will have taken place in Dallas, Texas (October 18-20). This will be the last fall show conducted by the ANA. In 2013, the ANA will revert to the two shows a year schedule. The spring National Money Show will take place in New Orleans, May 9-11, 2013.

Around the State...

Club Reporter—North
Sally Johnson
P.O. Box 10416
San Jose, CA 95157-1416
SallyJohnsonTCN@aol.com

Club Reporter—South
Virginia Bourke
10601 Vista Camino
Lakeside, CA 92040-1605
vlbourke@cox.net

Ginny's Gleanings: Welcome to the Los Angeles Paper Money Club, new to my column. This club is very active with lots of shows and a great leader. Congratulations to the new CSNA team and to Greg Burns for garnering a first-place in 2012 (again!) from the ANA for Outstanding Regional Numismatic Publication. Hopefully, you won't think I am bragging, but I am so proud to receive the coveted Glenn B. Smedley award from the ANA. Thank you to all who voted for me, and to my buddy, Bob Fritsch.

Sally's Sayings: As your new northern club reporter for TCN, I am looking forward to reading and learning about your club and how it is run and those who help out in either leadership roles or just lending a hand when needed. We have a great group of people who love this hobby and hopefully, I will get to read many stories and learn about what everyone is collecting. If you don't see your club listing in this publication it is because you didn't send me your latest newsletter. So, let's stay connected and make your club stand out in our community!

Club Reports...

ALAMEDA COIN CLUB presentation was led by **Tom** on a discussion of the values of coin clubs. One finds that the hobby is diverse as there are so many different things to collect. **Mike Leong** gave a very interesting talk on coins chop-marked in China. There were varieties from many countries, including United States, Spain, Mexico, Hong Kong, Japan, Great Britain, France and Austria. Coin of the month for October is good or better silver quarter 1932-1964. Bring a coin and get a ticket!

BAY CITIES COIN CLUB members who read their bulletin received an in-depth history of the hobby of coin collecting. Junior member **Tyler Gobble** just attended his third ANA Summer Seminar. All on scholarships! **Eric P.** inherited a footlocker loaded with lots of goodies that he brought to share during *Show and Tell*. **Steve D.** brought a New Jersey colonial copper coin while **Steve R.** tried to upstage him with his ancient coin from India circa 187-75 BC. In September, **Scott S.** shared his collection of Buffalo nickels and had the 2 keys in slabs, an 18/17 and a 3-legged. **John F.** is finding tons of stuff with his trusty metal detector and brought in quite a stack of goodies. **John R.** shared coins, notes and photos his father took when he was one of the famous Flying Tigers flying over China/India/Burma during WWII.

BURBANK COIN CLUB has new officers at the helm; **Alfred** treasurer, **Bill** in charge of conducting the meetings, auctions, and drawings, **John** and **Tom** in charge of set ups and tear downs. Tom has one other very important job; he is in charge of bringing the donuts. The club has active participation in all their *Show and Tells*. **Joyce** and **George** after many years of doing a lot of the work are finally taking a well-deserved rest. The club thanks them for all their years of leadership.

CALIFORNIA EXONUMIST SOCIETY is encouraging and welcoming all of its CES members to attend some or part of this all-day event put on by CSNA sponsoring its 13th Annual Northern California Educational Symposium with two CES Members being presenters: **Herbert Miles** and **Lloyd Chan**. They are also trying to coordinate two Boy Scout Merit Badge sessions and at the same time doing their club Fund-Raising Auction.

CHULA VISTA COIN CLUB members learned all about *Challenge Coins* used by the military forces from the presentation of **Ken Smith** and **Steve Fahrlender**. Basically, you better have your coin with you if you go to a bar or you may end up buying everyone a drink! In October the club hosted a one-day coin show on an invite-only basis, which was very successful and lucrative for those selling. The donation auction in November consisting of numismatic items only was very successful. The proceeds from the auction are used to buy the members' Christmas gifts at the December Christmas party/potluck.

COINEERS COIN CLUB thanked life-member **Larry Robak** for supplying desserts to the members for the last decade. Kudos to new member **Laura Merrill** for taking on the position of refreshment-hostess. This club features a *Show and Tell* theme every meeting with active participation by the membership. One *Show and Tell* theme recently was "Best Deal Ever". Congratulations to **Tony Laiuppa** who was awarded life membership. He joins Larry Robak and **Vince Bacon**, a very select few! **Jack Kahler** won the .999 silver "Blue Angels" medal. This has been an on-going drawing which is not awarded until a certain amount of money is procured.

COVINA COIN CLUB members received a brush-up on history from educator **Tom Fitzgerald** who presented a talk on *Who is John Trumball?* at their meeting in August. **Les Watson's** program in September covered *US Dimes 1796 to Date*. It was well-received and members found out they did not know as much about the dime series as they thought. Lucky **Jeff S.** won the gold coin drawing and **Ron Stone** won the 50/50 pot. **Al Hoogeveen** spoke on *The Gold Rush of 1849* in October. October was also *Pie Night*! Every club should have one of these.

CUPERTINO COIN CLUB had a fantastic time at their Annual Joint CCC/SJCC Picnic on July 21st. Thirty-six adults attended with two youths. A big "thank you" goes to **Keith Scott** for purchasing all the food and planning the picnic, and his multiple helpers, **Fred, Martha Davis, Lyle Okamoto, Dan B., Betty H.** and **Historian Harold Worun** who took lots of pictures. It was a celebration with SeptemberFest being the highlight of the month. Everyone enjoyed a feast of Togo's sandwiches supplied by the club. Cupertino celebrated their 28th annual banquet dinner at the Blue Pheasant Restaurant where 32 people attended the event. Everyone received souvenir wooden dollars and tokens.

DELTA COIN CLUB is looking for new officers and is hoping for more new folks with some new ideas to come forward and volunteer for the 2013 year! Help keep your club alive and be part of its future! Also, **Tony Rantz** says the annual club auction is set and ready to go this September 21st with about 70+ items in the auction. The club netted over $800 for the club's treasury. Special thanks to both **Cliff Rice** and **Kevin Maloy** for helping with the auctioneering and runners, **Amir Smith** and **William Violett**.

DIABLO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY will hold its 648th meeting in August. In September we will be planning and preparing for our coin show. Please come and help prepare the postcards and coin flips, and enjoy some yummy pizza with all of us! Our scout/youth meeting meets every month at 6 PM.

DOWNEY COIN CLUB played *Coin-O with Cards* in August, presented by **Chuck Morrissey**. **Albertus Hoogeveen** attended the ANA show in Philadelphia and was in attendance at the auction for the Battle Born Collection of Carson City coins which sold for over $9,000,000. Albertus presented the September program covering the topic of *History of Proof Coinage*.

FAIRFIELD COIN CLUB joint picnic is September at the Benicia City Park. This is a family day with fun, food and games! We will be having our annual pizza night and **Mr. Belleau** will be picking up pies from Leonardo's. Don't forget that October is *Bingo Night - Silver ½'s*. **Mr. Bartz'** bill contest will be in November - $1.00 repeater notes, 1975 to date. There will be prizes too! Don't forget the Fairfield Coin Club/Vallejo Numismatic Society's 26th Annual Joint Christmas Party, at Anheuser-Busch Brewery. The date has been changed to

December 8th and *Mega-Drawing* will include $1700 in prizes and silver eagles as door prizes!

FREMONT COIN CLUB will have a special 41st anniversary cake October 23rd honoring the occasion and older members are encouraged to share a story about the club's early history for the benefit of the new members. FCC installation dinner set for January 13th at Spin-A-Yarn. Club elections are coming in November, contact: **Bob Lusk** or **Jonathan Chang**.

FRESNO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY is working on developing a web site which is in progress. **Luis Ramos** constructed a basic format, with a good title page and different sections that can be developed further. The club also has their 65th anniversary book/photo album celebrating its past years of devotion to the hobby. **Randy Clifton** spoke on seated dollars and general history of the Carson City area. He spoke about the life of Abraham Curry, the founder of Carson City and the driving force behind the CC Mint, the building of the town, the creation of the mint and the seated liberty dollars minted from 1870 and 1872. September's program was the *White Elephant Auction* by auctioneer, **Mr. Bud Sanders** with the proceeds going to help buy the silver prizes for the big raffle at the end of their coin show.

GATEWAY COIN CLUB medal chairman, **Corey Plagenza**, has been steadily chipping away at all the twists and turns that present themselves during an annual medallion issuing process. Corey is one of a small group of members who have over the years devoted themselves to doing the legwork, once the medal design has been chosen, working with the designer, the club president (and board on occasion), the Medallion Mint owner, their staff, etc. He deserves major recognition for taking care of all the details that arise. Thanks, Corey Plagenza!

GLENDALE COIN CLUB August meeting featured their annual *White Elephant Auction*. It was very successful. The program at the September meeting was the *First Annual Grading Competition* led by **Michael Kittle** who won Best Grader at the Long Beach Coin Show competition. The club hosted a successful coin show in October. **Albertus Hoogeveen** presented his talk on the" at the October meeting. **Jay Casesa** will speak on *The Basics of Selling Coins on E-Bay* at the November meeting. December's meeting will have a *Holiday Party* and *Coin-O*.

HEARTLAND COIN CLUB members chose their 2013 medal design in September. Congratulations to **Chris Dinanno** for his winning design. **First Vice President Andrew Woodruff** has a challenging quiz and a prize drawing for the winners. The club will host a coin show in December. December is also the annual Christmas party and *White Elephant Auction*, which is always eagerly anticipated.

HEMET COIN CLUB thanked **Secretary Dot Williams** for her work coordinating the catered luncheon in August. **Vice President Jim Phillips** did a presentation in August on *Operation Bernard*. This was a German counterfeiting operation during WWII using Jewish POW's to create British pound notes. The notes were so close to perfect that the Bank of England had a hard time telling them apart. Dot Williams coordinated all the goodies for the *Ice-Cream Social* in September. This event really brings out the members! **President Ken Busby** shared his photos of his motorcycle trip through 14 state and national parks in September. October was the *White Elephant Sale*.

INTERNATIONAL NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF SAN DIEGO enjoyed **Larry Baber's** presentation of *Swedish Plate Money* in August. **Mike Shaw** shared his very scarce "gratitude" medals issued by the *Commission of Relief to Belgium*. September meeting theme was *Topicals* and members brought in many different categories. In October, Larry Baber brought in his complete set of Swedish plate money and needed a safari of porters to carry in the heavy pieces. He has one of the most complete sets in the US and they are heavy. Swedish plate money was really used as money and people carried them when purchasing items. Maybe this explains why Swedes are so strong!

LONG BEACH COIN CLUB members were enthralled with **Robert Wu's** talk on the *Three-Cent Nickel* and its history at the September meeting. **Jerry Kleeb** covered the subject of cleaning or not cleaning ancient to modern coins at the October meeting. **David Schwager** addressed the *French Connection of US Coins* at the November meeting.

LOS ANGELES PAPER MONEY CLUB is led by a very active and enthusiastic leader, **Scott McNutt**. Their speaker in August was **Phil Thomas** on the subject *From Gold to Geither*. Members hosted a two-day show in October, which was very well attended and successful.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION reports that there were no nominations received for the Miller Medal, so this year it will go unawarded. Appreciation goes to **Irene Carrillo**, who coordinated the registration table and daily drawing (raffle) and **Harry Davis**, who handled the bourse and arrangements with the Vallejo Veterans Memorial Building, venue for the Nor-Cal X Coin Show. **Michael Turrini** expedited the promotion and staffed both days the combination youth/information/ANA table.

PACIFIC COAST NUMISMATIC SOCIETY had some wonderful presentations starting with **Michael Turrini** and *Coins with Stories,* and he also shared a 1937 peso, the rarest of the set. Then there was **Don Kagin** who presented his talk, *Our Nation's First Circulating Currency: The Treasury Notes of the War of 1812*. **Dan Hipple** talked about, *Toivo Johnson's Bad Idea*. Thanks to all three guys for doing an outstanding job!

PENINSULA COIN CLUB—no newsletters provided.

REDWOOD EMPIRE COIN CLUB Jim D. gave a nice talk on a chunk of metal he brought in that was a piece of the Golden Gate Bridge. He talked about a 1939 medal from the GGIE, as well as other collectibles. He tied it in with his memories of the event, with a picture of him and his parents there in 1939! Special thanks to **Don Rinkor** for his donation of 16 slabbed silver dollars to the club for their hourly drawings at their show. *Oktoberfest* was celebrated with the help of **Lee Gong** and the gang at G & G. There was also a free dinner to those who donated an item to the annual *Helen & Roy Roberts Benefit Auction.*

SACRAMENTO VALLEY COIN CLUB—no newsletters provided.

SAN BERNARDINO COIN CLUB featured *Other Hobbies* at their August meeting. Among the variety of items, there were teabags, feed sacks, mouse traps, to name just a few. **Albertus Hoogeveen** spoke on *The North Carolina Gold Rush of 1828* at the September meeting. October's meeting featured the *Super Auction II*. Congratulations to members **Norm** and **Bess Sturgess** for their 70th wedding anniversary. The new officers for next year will be **President Tony Micciche, Vice President Don Lannon, Secretary Cheryl Lannon,** and **Treasurer Norm Sturgess**.

SAN DIEGO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY President Jim Hunt was on hand and honored to receive the 75th Year (membership) award on behalf of the society at the recent ANA World's Fair of Money in Philadelphia. In October, Jim Hunt spoke on *Appalachian Gold*, a new subject to most of the members, which was thoroughly enjoyed. The November meeting was dedicated to the *Donation Auction of Numismatic Items* with **Vice President Dave Jones** calling the lots! **Kay Lenker's** birthday was celebrated with a special cake donated by **Bob Fritsch** and served by **Ellen Hunt**.

SAN FRANCISCO COIN CLUB will be doing a *Show and Tell* theme in August on *Your Recent Numismatic Acquisition*. Then in September the *Show and Tell* theme will be about "Small Denominations." October should be interesting with the *Show and Tell* theme being "Women on Coins." Each month there is also a silent auction where members can consign up to three lots, but anyone can bid starting with fifty-cent increments.

SAN JOSE COIN CLUB Ray Johnson gave a talk on wampum at the July meeting. Ray explained wampum was made from invertebrate shells and used as money for trade by the colonists. Everyone enjoyed *Other Hobbies Night* where members shared a non-numismatic hobby, with each exhibitor receiving a ticket for a drawing. **Allison Paker** spoke on the hobby of collecting elongated coins. She covered many details about the different types of designs, as well as tips regarding how and where to collect these interesting coins.

STANISLAUS COUNTY COIN CLUB celebrated its annual *Hot-Dog Night*, with the famous dual chefs, **Donald Hill** and **Michael Turrini** doing the honors at the range. **President Harry Davis** has dictated that September's meeting be an old fashioned ice cream social with the club providing the ice cream, and requesting the members to bring and share their favorite toppings. Their *Hopperstad Auction* on December 5th is a major event and fundraiser for the society, one that generates good income and great laughs and jokes! Donations of household items, wine, coin hobby supplies, and seasonal gifts are always welcomed.

UPLAND COIN CLUB members celebrated their club birthday in August with a potluck and *Bingo*. The meeting in September featured *Super Auction* and had 90 lots. Most everything sold. **Ken Crum** presented the October program *Things that Look Like Money*, a subject near and dear to all of our hearts.

VALLEJO NUMISMATIC SOCIETY celebrated its annual Hot-Dog Night, with the famous dual chefs, **Donald Hill** and **Michael Turrini** doing the honors at the range. **President Harry Davis** has dictated September meeting be an old fashion ice-cream social with the club providing the ice-cream, and requesting the members to bring and share their favorite toppings. Their *Hopperstad Auction* on December 5th is a major event and fundraiser, one that generates good income and great laughs and jokes! Donations of household items, wine, coin hobby supplies, and seasonal gifts are always welcomed.

VERDUGO HILLS COIN CLUB Speaker in August was the **Honorable Tom Redmond** whose topic *Collecting Canadian Coins and Currency* was enjoyed by all. The very popular *Ice-Cream Social* has a new name; the *Rick Gordon Ice Cream Social* to honor him for all his tireless participation in the club since becoming a charter member 48 years ago! The program in September was provided by **Jeff Klemzak**, whose subject, *Exonumia*, was very interesting. September was also *Pizza Night*. **Barry Stuppler** spoke on *What's Happening in the Rare Coin and Precious Metal Market* in October. He also spoke on HR5977.

WHITTIER COIN CLUB members watched a video on Dwight D. Eisenhower in August. In September, the club celebrated their anniversary at the Hibiki Asian Buffet. It was delicious. The second part of the Eisenhower video was viewed at the October meeting.

WOODLAND HILLS COIN CLUB's President Bill Pagel spoke on *Old Ironsides* exonumia in August. On August 19, 2012, "Old Ironsides" sailed in the Boston Harbor for 17 minutes, the first time since 1997. **Phil Iversen** presented a video at the September meeting, *US Commemorative Coins*. Phil gave a talk in October on *More School District Collectibles*. Phil has been very busy as general chairman of the CSNA 130th Convention held in October in Long Beach. In November, Phil presented the video, *Exonumia of the Century 21 Exposition*.

NASC Awards Nominations

It's that time of year to have the NASC awards nominations in preparation for the NASC Awards Recognition Event to be held later in 2012. The following awards are based upon NASC member nominations:

Richard P. Goodson Memorial Award—honors a member by acknowledging their contributions to the NASC. Must have been an NASC member in good standing for five consecutive years. No self-nominations.

Maurice M. Gould Memorial Junior Achievement Award—recognizes a junior's participation in numismatics. Must be no older than 18 at time of nomination and be a member of the NASC or NASC member club.

Outstanding Numismatic Speaker Award—recognizes a member of the NASC or a member club who volunteers time and effort furthering education and NASC goals by speaking before schools, clubs, organizations, etc. No self-nominations.

Use the form below and mail to the Fosters as soon as possible.

NASC Annual Nomination Form

Please submit nominations as quickly as possible!

Nomination candidates to be considered between October 1 of the previous year to October 1 of the current year. Qualifications are to include achievements, accomplishments, and valued efforts in the numismatic arena. Nominee must be a member in good standing of the NASC or a member club.

Circle the appropriate award: Richard P. Goodson Award
Junior Achievement Award
Outstanding Speaker's Award

Name of nominee:_____

Qualifications (provide on separate sheet if this space is insufficient):

Submitted by:_____Member #_____
Individual's or club's name (must be a NASC member in good standing)

Mail to: Don and Terry Foster
422 Drake Road
Arcadia, CA 91007

Directory of Member Clubs

Changes should be sent by a club officer via mail to the applicable association's corresponding secretary. CSNA and NASC membership status is indicated in parentheses at the end of each club's listing.

Alameda Coin Club—meets 1st Tuesday, 6:45 p.m., Alameda Free Library, 1550 Oak Street, Alameda; mailing address: P.O. Box 1763, Alameda, CA 94501-0202. (CSNA)

Bay Cities Coin Club—meets 2nd Thursday, 6:30 p.m., El Segundo Library, 111 W. Mariposa Ave., El Segundo; mailing address: c/o Jack von Bloeker III, 5714 Apia Drive, Cypress, CA 90630. (NASC)

Brentwood Coin Club—meets 1st Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Raley's Food Center (staff room by the Pharmacy), 2400 Sand Creek Rd., Brentwood; mailing address: P.O. Box 1237, Brentwood, CA 94513; e-mail: Collectors@CoinClub.cc. (CSNA)

Burbank Coin Club—meets 1st Wednesday, 6:00 p.m., Joslyn Center (Nutrition Room), 1301 W. Olive Ave., Burbank; mailing address: c/o Don Fujitani, 215 Cedar Heights Drive, Thousand Oaks, CA 91360. (NASC)

California Exonumist Society—meets twice a year during the semi-annual CSNA Conventions; mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4104, Vallejo, CA 94590-0410; e-mail: EmperorI@juno.com. (CSNA, NASC)

California State Numismatic Association—meets twice a year during CSNA conventions at various locations; mailing address: Stephen Huston, P.O. Box 1388, Alameda, CA 94501; e-mail: ask@numorum.com; Web site: www.calcoin.org. (CSNA, NASC)

Chula Vista Coin Club—meets 1st Thursday, 7:00 p.m., San Diego County Library, Bonita Branch, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita; mailing address: 10601 Vista Camino, Lakeside, CA 92040; Web site: www.chulavistacoinclub.org. (CSNA)

Coineers Coin Club—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., 4675 Tecolote Road, San Diego, CA; mailing address: 829 Portsmouth Court, San Diego, CA 92109. (CSNA)

Covina Coin Club—meets 3rd Wednesday, 8:00 p.m., San Dimas Royal Mobile Homes Clubhouse, 1630 W. Covina Blvd., San Dimas.; mailing address: Helen Desens, 282 W. Bygrove St., Covina, CA 91722. (CSNA, NASC)

Cupertino Coin Club—meets 2nd Friday, 7:30 p.m., West Valley Presbyterian Church, Parish Hall, 6191 Bollinger Avenue, Cupertino, CA; mailing address: P.O. Box 448, Cupertino, CA 95015-0448; Web site: www.cupertinocoinclub.com. (CSNA)

Delta Coin Club—meets 1st and 3rd Fridays, 7:30 p.m., Eagles Hall, 1492 Bourbon Street, Stockton, CA 95204; mailing address: P.O. Box 216, Victor CA 95253-0216. (CSNA)

Diablo Numismatic Society—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Concord Police Department meeting room, 1350 Galindo St., Concord; contact: James Laird, president, (925) 200-2276; e-mail: info@diablocoinclub.org; Web site: www.diablocoinclub.org. (CSNA)

Downey Numismatists—meets 4th Monday, 7:30 p.m., Downey Retirement Center, 11500 Dolan Ave., Downey; mailing address: Albertus Hoogeveen, P.O. Box 222, Downey, CA 90241. (NASC)

Fairfield Coin Club—meets 4th Wednesday (except December), 7:00 p.m., Grace Episcopal Church, Parish Hall #1, corner of First and Kentucky Streets, Fairfield; mailing address: P.O. Box 944, Fairfield, CA 94533-0094. (CSNA)

Fremont Coin Club—meets 2nd and 4th Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Fremont Elks Club, #2121, 38991 Farwell Drive, Fremont; mailing address: P.O. Box 1401, Fremont, CA 94538-0140; Web site: www.FremontCoinClub.org (CSNA)

Fresno Numismatic Society—meets 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Las Palmas Masonic Temple, 2992 East Clinton, Fresno; mailing address: P.O. Box 11525, Fresno, CA 93773-1525. (CSNA)

Full Step Nickel Club—Call for meeting dates and locations; (818) 841-2959; mailing address: Darrell Crane, President, P.O. Box 10909, Burbank, CA 91510; e-mail: grannis@earthlink.net; Web site: www.fullstepnickel.com. (NASC)

Gateway Coin Club—meets 1st & 3rd Thursday, 7:15 p.m., Bear Creek Community Church, 1717 East Olive Ave. (Olive at Parsons), Merced; mailing address: P.O. Box 3101, Merced, CA 95344-1101. (CSNA)

Glendale Coin Club—meets 2nd Friday, 7:30 p.m., CitiBank, 2350 Honolulu Blvd., Glendale; mailing address: GCC, c/o Yahalom, P.O. Box 4947, Westlake Village, CA 91359; Web site: www.GlenCoin.com. (CSNA, NASC)

Greater Orange County Coin Club—meets 2nd Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Costa Mesa Neighborhood Community Center, Costa Mesa Room, 1845 Park; mailing address: 2032 Kornat Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626; e-mail: bill.pfeifer@sbcglobal.net; phone: (714) 546-0931; Web site: www.occoinclub.com. (CSNA, NASC)

Heartland Coin Club—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Bostonia Park Recreation Building, 1049 Bostonia St., El Cajon; mailing address: Lee Darnell, 1728 San Vicente Road, Ramona, CA 92065; e-mail: jyjoylee@pacbell.net. (NASC)

Hemet Numismatists—meets 3rd Wednesday, 12:00 Noon, Provident Savings Bank, 1600 Florida Avenue (Northwest Corner Giard and Florida), Hemet; mailing address: P.O. Box 3082, Hemet, CA 92546. (CSNA, NASC)

International Numismatic Society of San Diego—meets 4th Wednesday, 5:45 p.m., North Park Adult Rec. Center, 2719 Howard Street, San Diego; mailing address: P.O. Box 161081, San Diego, CA 92176; Web site: www.inssd.org. (CSNA, NASC)

Leisure World Coin Club—meets 2nd Wednesday, 1:30 p.m., Clubhouse No. 3, Room 2, Seal Beach Leisure World; mailing address: Austin Overholtz, 1331 Pelham Road, #67A, Seal Beach, CA 90740. (NASC)

Liberty Numismatic Society—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Millbrae City Library, 1 Library Avenue, Millbrae; mailing address: P.O. Box 300, Millbrae, CA 94030-0300; Web site: LNS.ANAclubs.org. (CSNA)

Long Beach Coin Club—meets 1st Monday, 7:00 p.m., Millikan High School Cafeteria, 2800 Snowden Ave., Long Beach; mailing address: P.O. Box 8101, Long Beach, CA 90808. (CSNA, NASC)

Los Angeles Paper Money Club—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Denny's, 5525 Sepulveda Blvd., Sherman Oaks; mailing address: Scott McNatt, 15445 Ventura Blvd., #125, Sherman Oaks, CA 91403-3005; e-mail: info@promedia.la. (CSNA)

Northern California Numismatic Association—meets in annually during Nor-Cal coin shows in various communities; mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4104, Vallejo, CA 94590-0410; e-mail: EmperorI@juno.com. (CSNA, NASC)

Numismatic Association of Southern California—meets four times per year; mailing address: Harold Katzman, P.O. Box 3382, Tustin, CA 92781-3382; e-mail: haroldkatzman@yahoo.com; Web site: www.NASC.net. (CSNA, NASC)

Oceanside-Carlsbad Coin Club—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Encinitas Community Center, 1140 Oakcrest Park Dr., Encinitas; mailing address: c/o Eblen, 1772 Caliban Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024. (NASC)

Pacific Coast Numismatic Society—meets 4th Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Fort Mason Center, Building C, San Francisco; mailing address: P.O. Box 457656, San Francisco, CA 94147-5656; Web site: www.pcns.org. (CSNA)

Redwood Empire Coin Club—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Veterans Memorial Building, 1351 Maple Avenue, Santa Rosa; mailing address: P.O. Box 9013, Santa Rosa, CA 95405-0013; Web site: www.RedwoodEmpireCoinClub.com (CSNA)

Sacramento Valley Coin Club—meets 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 5026 Don Julio Blvd., North Highlands; mailing address: P.O. Box 160122, Sacramento, CA 95816; Web site: www.sacvalcc.org. (CSNA, NASC)

San Bernardino County Coin Club—meets 3rd Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Highland Senior Center, 3102 E. Highland Ave., Highland, CA; mailing address: P.O. Box 2745, San Bernardino, CA 92406. (CSNA, NASC)

San Diego County Inter-Club Numismatic Council—meets 1st Saturday in February, May, August and November, 10:00 a.m., North Park Adult Center, 2719 Howard Street, San Diego; mailing address: 10601 Vista Camino, Lakeside, CA 92040; Web site: www.coinarama.org. (CSNA)

San Diego Numismatic Society—meets 1st Tuesday, 6:15 p.m., North Park Adult Center, 2719 Howard St., San Diego; mailing address: Lenker, P.O. Box 6909, San Diego, CA 92166-6909. (CSNA, NASC)

San Francisco Coin Club—meets 4th Friday, 7:00 p.m., Taraval Police Station, Community Room, 2345 24th Ave., San Francisco; mailing address: POB 880994, San Francisco, CA 94188-0994. (CSNA)

San Jose Coin Club—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., American Legion Hall, Post #318, 1504 Minnesota Avenue, San Jose; mailing address: P.O. Box 5621, San Jose, CA 95150-5621; Web site: www.sanjosecoinclub.org. (CSNA)

Santa Maria Coin Club—meets 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Edwards Community Center, 809 Panther Drive, Santa Maria; mailing address: P.O. Box 7186, Santa Maria, CA 93456. (CSNA)

Stanislaus County Coin Club—meets 2nd and 4th Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Denny's Restaurant, 1525 McHenry Ave., Modesto; mailing address: P.O. Box 1672, Modesto, CA 95353-1672; Web site: www.stancocoinclub.org. (CSNA)

The World Coin Club—meets 2nd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Senior Citizens Center, 201 E. Bonita Ave., San Dimas; mailing address: c/o Allen Ybarra, P.O. Box 211, Pomona, CA 91769. (CSNA)

Upland Coin Club—meets 3rd Saturday, 7:30 p.m., Magnolia Rec. Center, 651 W. 15th Street, Upland; mailing address: P.O. Box 8272, Alta Loma, CA 91701. (CSNA, NASC)

Vallejo Numismatic Society—meets 1st Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., Florence Douglas Senior Center, Room A, 333 Amador (between Florida and Georgia), Vallejo; mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 4281, Vallejo, CA 94590-0428; e-mail: EmperorI@juno.com; phone: (707) 642-0216 or (707) 246-6327. (CSNA)

Verdugo Hills Coin Club—meets 2nd Monday, 7:15 p.m., CitiBank, 2350 Honolulu Ave., Montrose; mailing address: P.O. Box 26, Tujunga, CA 91043. (NASC)

Visalia Coin Club—meets 4th Tuesday, 7:00 p.m., Visalia Senior Citizen Center, 310 North Locust, Visalia; mailing address: 204 West Main Street, Visalia, CA 93291. (CSNA)

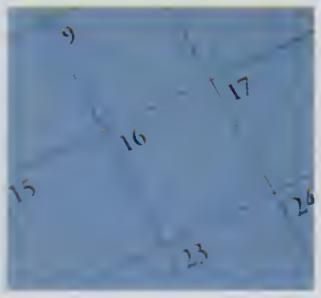
Western Token Society (WESTS)—meets <unknown>; mailing address: P.O. Box 723, Merced, CA 95341. (CSNA)

Western Wooden Money Club—meets at various San Francisco Bay area local coin shows, about four times per year; mailing address: Michael S. Turrini, P.O. Box 3467, Fairfield, CA 94533-3467; e-mail: EmperorI@juno.com. (CSNA)

Whittier Coin Club—meets 2nd Friday, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., at the Santa Fe Spring library on Slauson Ave just east of Norwalk Blvd, Whittier; mailing address: 540 Teakwood Avenue, La Habra, CA 90631. (CSNA, NASC)

Woodland Hills Coin Club—meets 2nd Thursday, 7:00 p.m., 21240 Burbank Blvd. (East Gate), Building 30, Woodland Hills; mailing address: Walt Wegner, Box 521, Woodland Hills, CA 91365; e-mail: wlwegner@msn.com. (CSNA, NASC)

Calendar of Events



...mark your calendars and plan to attend!

- Visit the *California Show List* on the Web at: home.earthlink.net/~beedon/calshows.htm
- If you have a coin show or other event that you'd like to have listed, please e-mail the following to Gary Beedon at beedon@earthlink.net: dates, name of show, address, facility name, contact info, and any admission or parking fees.

Sorry that we don't have more details in the below listing. We're just getting used to the idea of 2013. In the meantime, if your club has an pending show please do send information to beedon@earthlink.net.

January 19-20	Coin Show (Playa Del Rey)
January 25-27	San Jose Coin Club Show (San Jose), Double Tree Hotel, 2050 Gateway Pl.
February 7-9	Long Beach Expo (Long Beach), Convention Center.
February 17	San Jose 42nd (Cupertino CC)
March 9-10	**Buena Park Coin Show**, Retail Clerks Hall, Corner of Stanton and Cresent (by Knott's Berry Farm), Kerry Pieropan, (714) 271-8946. Free parking.
April 27	**CSNA 45th Annual Southern Educational Symposium**, (reserve the date; details to be announced next issue).

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CSNA

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beedon@earthlink.net, P.O. Box 2335, Huntington Beach, CA 92647

Vice-President ..... Jeff Shevlin
SoCalledGuy@hotmail.com, 7732 Fair Oaks Blvd., Suite 250, Carmichael, CA 95608

Corresponding Secretary ..... Michael S. Turrini
emperori@juno.com, c/o CSNA, P.O. Box 4003, Vallejo, CA 94590-0400

Recording Secretary ..... Virginia Bourke
vlbourke@cox.net, 10601 Vista Camino, Lakeside, CA 92040-1605

Treasurer ..... Roy Iwata
rti2449@aol.com, P.O. Box 2449, Seal Beach, CA 90740

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Past President ..... Michael S. Turrini, emperori@juno.com, P.O. Box 4003, Vallejo, CA 94590-0400

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Al Lo, allosj@cs.com, P.O. Box 20931, San Jose, CA 95160
Herb Miles, hmiles10@comcast.net, 5423 Highland Ave., Richmond, CA 94804
Lyle Okamoto, numismatist01@yahoo.com, P.O. Box 5922, San Jose, CA 95150

South ..... Phil Iversen, phil_iversen@yahoo.com, P.O. Box 5207, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413
Howard Feltham, hfelt@aol.com, 22514 Evalyn Ave., Torrance CA. 90505
Greg Schenewerk, gregs@gcsphoto.com, 5617 El Cajon Bl., San Diego, CA 92115
Ken Stempien, kensuestempien@cox.net, 1826 Treseder Circle, El Cajon, CA 92019

Appointed Officers

Curator ..... G. Lee Kuntz
gleemedals@aol.com, 697 Scripps Drive, Claremont, CA 91711-2640

Director of Education ..... Phil Iversen
phil_iversen@yahoo.com, P.O. Box 5207, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413

Editor ..... Greg Burns
gregsburns@gmail.com, P.O. Box 1181, Claremont, CA 91711

Banquet Coordinator ..... Joyce Kuntz
joycemedals@aol.com, 697 Scripps Drive, Claremont, CA 91711-2640

Historian/Photographer ..... Joyce Kuntz
joycemedals@aol.com, 697 Scripps Drive, Claremont, CA 91711-2640

Librarian ..... Donald L. Hill
csnalibrary@gmail.com,
CSNA Library, c/o Vallejo Naval and Historical Museum,
734 Marin Street, Vallejo, CA 94590-5592

Medals Coordinator ..... Joyce Kuntz
joycemedals@aol.com, 697 Scripps Drive, Claremont, CA 91711-2640

Membership Coordinator ..... Phil Iversen
phil_iversen@yahoo.com, P.O. Box 5207, Sherman Oaks, CA 91413

NASC Representative ..... Howard Feltham
hfelt@aol.com, 22514 Evalyn Ave., Torrance CA. 90505

NCNA Representative ..... Harry Davis
P.O. Box 4104, Vallejo, CA 94590-0410

Webmaster / Database Manager ..... Stephen Huston
For most current contact info please visit www.CalCoin.org

Youth Numismatist Coordinator ..... Michael S. Turrini
emperori@juno.com, P.O. Box 4003, Vallejo, CA 94590-0400

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Corresponding Secretary ..... Harold Katzman
haroldkatzman@yahoo.com, 714-838-0861, P.O. Box 3382, Tustin, CA 92781-3382
Recording Secretary ..... Albertus Hoogeveen
arapaho2@ca.rr.com, 562-862-6666, P.O. Box 222, Downey, CA 90241-0222
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Writing for *The California Numismatist*

Articles—should be relevant to coin collecting or coin club experiences, and are accepted with the understanding that they are unrestricted from publication. Please indicate if the article has been previously published, and if so, where. Digital files are preferred via e-mail to gregsburns@gmail.com; typed copy is also acceptable mailed to *The California Numismatist*, P.O. Box 1181, Claremont, CA 91711. The author's name and contact information should appear on the first page or on an accompanying cover letter or e-mail. *The California Numismatist* reserves the right to edit all items for format or content.

Images—relevant to the articles and of a resolution suitable for publication (generally 300dpi) are appreciated. If the author lacks photographic equipment, material may be sent to *The California Numismatist* for reproduction, but *only* with prior arrangement. The preferred format for digital files is JPG or TIF, though other formats may also be acceptable (GIF, PNG, etc.) depending upon the editor's capabilities at the time.

Author's Biography—New authors interested in providing the information should submit a brief biography (150 words or less) that includes pertinent data, such as place of birth, professional background, hobby interests and affiliations, and numismatic awards and accomplishments.

Annual Awards—Each contributor to The California Numismatist is eligible for consideration for prestigious literary awards. These awards are conferred annually and are accompanied by the eternal gratitude of the editor.

Next deadline for material submission: February 15, 2013

Advertising

General—*The California Numismatist* is an educational journal published four times per year and distributed to all California State Numismatic Association (CSNA) and Numismatic Association of Southern California (NASC) members as a membership benefit. Circulation is approximately 800 and most issues are 80 pages. All advertising is accepted subject to the approval of the editor.

Guidelines—Digital files preferred, but we are happy to make your ad up for you at no charge with sufficient advance notice. Digital proofs of your ad can be provided upon request and at that time ad revisions may be requested. Annual ads may be changed at each issue.

Payment—Cancellations of annual contracts will be rebilled at the prevailing per-issue rate. Payment should be made to "CSNA" or "NASC" and forwarded to the advertising manager prior to ad placement.

Rates

Space	B/W Per Issue	B/W Annually	Color Per Issue	Color Annually
Inside Rear Cover	n/a	540	n/a	810
Full Page	140	400	210	600
Half Page	85	250	125	375
Quarter Page	45	130	75	210

Publication Deadlines—February 15, May 15, August 15, and November 15.

Numismatic Nostalgia

Image from Numismatic Bibliomania Society, E-Sylum V13, N11.

Fifty Years Ago

- Milton Straugh of Daly City wrote an article in *Calcoin News* on the Netherlands Empire, and in one part detailed how in 1568 during a Spanish siege the Dutch, short on metal to use for coins, used paper taken from Bibles and laminated for use as a striking medium using the normal coinage dies.
- J.E. Charlton and John Jay Pittman, both names you likely recognize, along with seven other folks whose names you probably don't, joined NASC.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

- As reported in *The NASC Quarterly*, the speaker at the educational forum at the 1988 NASC 33rd annual coin show in Los Angeles would be none other than Q. David Bowers.
- *Calcoin News* passed along this cute joke:

  "The little girl asked to see the president of a large company. She explained her club was raising money and would he contribute?

  "Smiling, he laid a dime and a dollar bill on his desk. 'Take whichever one you want.'

  "Picking up the dime, she said, 'My mother taught me to take the smallest piece, but,' picking up the dollar bill also, she said, 'I'll take this piece of paper to wrap it in so I won't lose it.'"

Ten Years Ago

- *Calcoin News* passed along CSNA President Ruth Phillips' message that Editor Theresa Lund and Publisher Jeff Shevlin (the two positions were separated back then) had announced their resignations. The following issue was the last produced by the dynamic duo. As of the last issue of 2002 they were still looking for a replacement, the chief requirements being dashing good-looks and impeccable literary tastes.
- Also reported was the passing of Ethyl Lenhert (1922-2002), at the time known as the "banquet queen", having arranged many festive get-togethers for SoCal numismatists. Aside from presiding over the Upland, Covina, San Bernardino County, and other local coin clubs, she was also the CSNA corresponding secretary and recording secretary (initially the two positions were merged), won many awards, and judging from her bio, very much missed.

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